MR. ARASHI'S

# AMAZING FREAK SHOW

SUEHIRO MARUO

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BLAST BOOKS

$10.95

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Suehiro Maruo's astonishing and powerful illustrations create a masterpiece of surrealism in his retelling of this classic Japanese tale of a little lost orphan ensnared in a traveling freak show. Suehiro Maruo lives in Tokyo, and MR. ARASHI'S AMAZING FREAK SHOW is the first of his works to be translated into English.

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# NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

The pages and the text balloons on each page are to be read from right to left—the opposite direction of English. English translations of sound effects appear beside the Japanese characters.

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SUEHIRO MARUO

TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE BY
YOKO UMEZAWA AND LAURA LINDGREN

BLAST BOOKS
NEW YORK

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# THE CAST

MR. ARASHI

MIDORI

SNAKE WOMAN

FATHER & MOTHER

THE GIANT

THE HUMAN WORM

HOHICHI THE HUMAN PRETZEL

MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER

THE MUMMY MAN

IKKA KITA†

HIBARI MISORA††

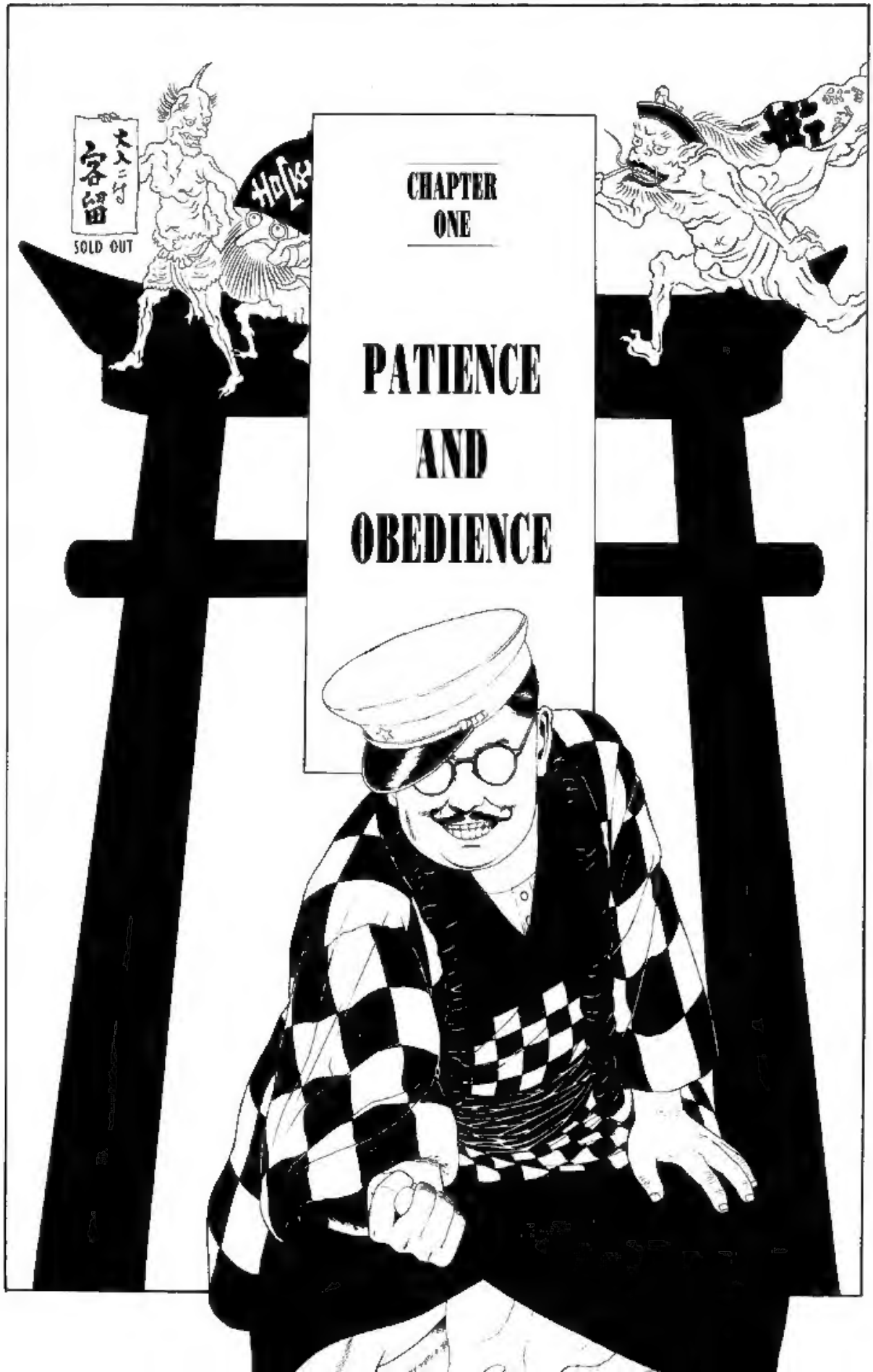
SPOTTED GIRL†††

KANABUN THE BOY-GIRL

†1883—1937 RADICAL NATIONALIST

††POPULAR JAPANESE SINGER

†††DOES NOT APPEAR IN STORY.

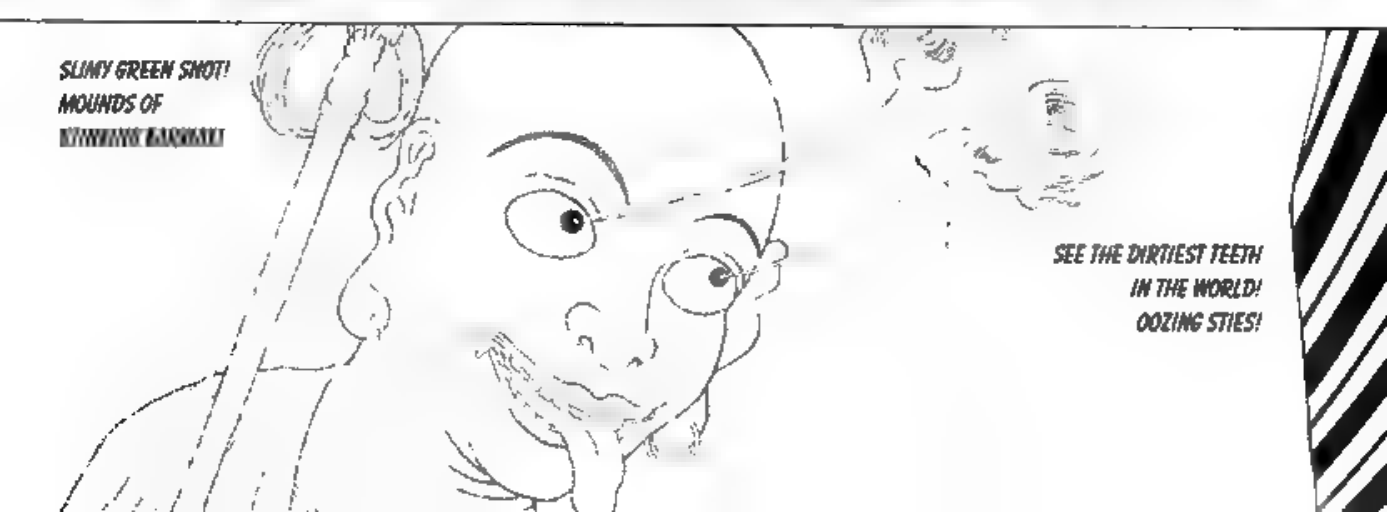



CHAPTER ONE

# PATIENCE AND OBEDIENCE

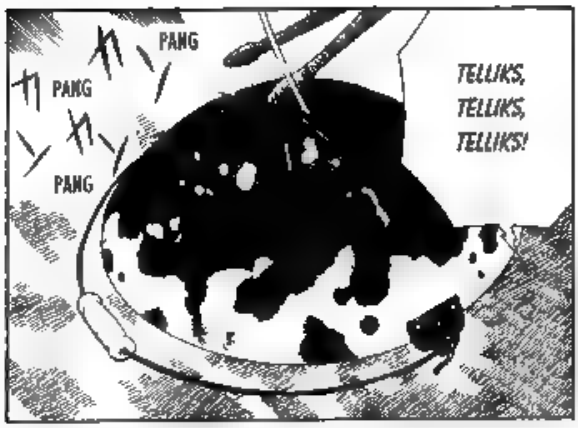
BRAVO!
イヨッ!!

YAH
や、
YAH
や、
YAH
や、
YAH
や、
YAH!
や!!

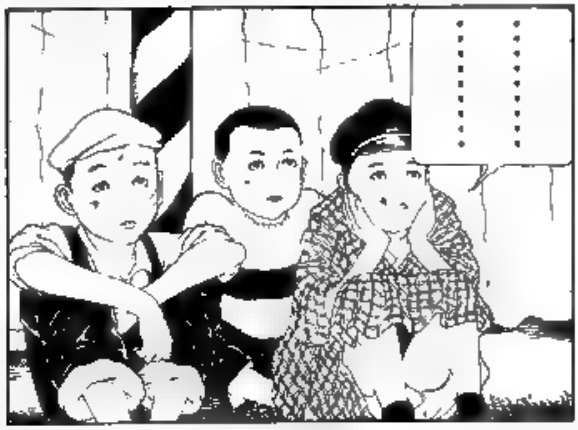

SLIMY GREEN SHOT!
MOUNDS OF
[illegible]
SEE THE DIRTIEST TEETH
IN THE WORLD!
OOZING STIES!

RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES, MARVELS AND MONSTROSITIES!
LIVE—LIVE—LIVE—
A HEAD FULL OF PUS!
IT'S ASTOUNDING!
IT'S SPELLBINDING!
IT'S BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS!

FOR THE EXTRA CURIOUS AND EXTRA DARING
A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE IN THE BACK
SEE THE HALF WOMAN–HALF MAN!
WATCH A COCK RIDE THE BACK OF AN ASS!
WHAT A HAIRY NIGHT!
COME GAPE AT THE MAN APE!
THE HUMAN WORM
WILL MAKE YOU SQUIRM!
SEE SOCIETY'S OUTCASTS,
MANKIND'S UNWANTED,
THE WORLD'S GREATEST CURIOSITIES!


PANG
PANG
PANG
TELLIKS, TELLIKS, TELLIKS!

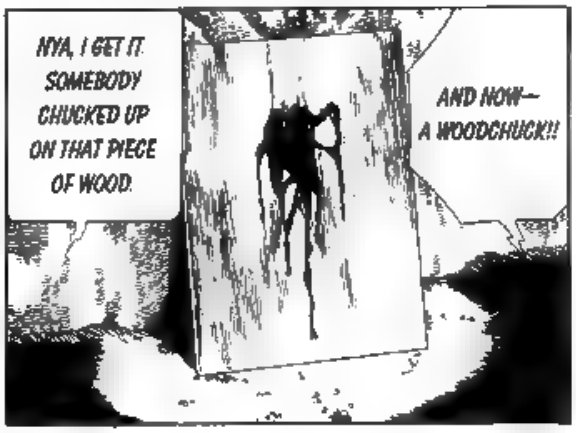
STEP RIGHT UP, STEP RIGHT UP! SEE THE TERRIFYING TELLIKS!! TELLIKS WITH THE HIDEOUS BLACK FACE!!



THAT'S WHY . . . WELL TELLI . .
AHEM. WELL, YES, IT'S AN UPSIDE-DOWN SKILLET . .

THAT'S STUPID— THAT'S NOTHING BUT AN OLD SKILLET.
SEE THE TELLIKS!

OF COURSE NOT.
DAMN BRATS!! HEY, DID YOU LITTLE STINKERS PAY FOR THE SHOW?

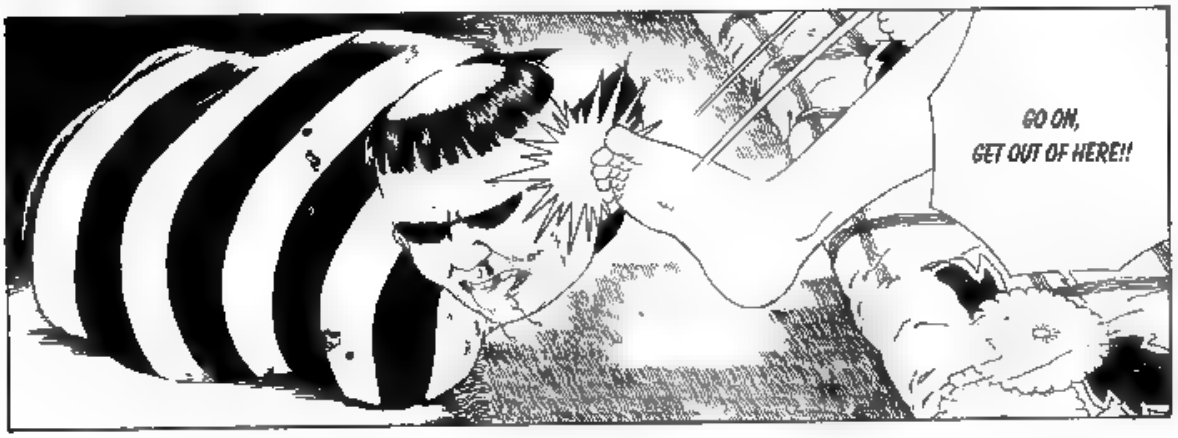

NYA, I GET IT. SOMEBODY CHUCKED UP ON THAT PIECE OF WOOD.
AND NOW— A WOODCHUCK!!

GET OUTTA HERE!!
OOO!!
THE SHOW'S OVER. KNOCK IT OFF!!
DAMN COUNTRY BUMPKINS DON'T APPRECIATE A GOOD PUN.
YOU CAN'T BE IN THE SHOW IF YOU'RE GOING TO GET SICK OVER A LITTLE CHICKEN BLOOD.
OH BOY. WHAT A WIMP. PUKING AGAIN.
OO-JH
UH
UH

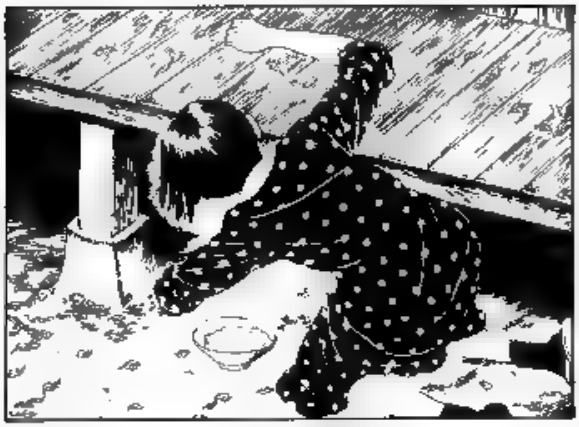
Dear Madame Cassandra:
I am twelve years old. Three years ago my father went away and never came back home. So my mother and I were alone, but then she died and I didn't have any place to live anymore. One day I met the owner of a freak show and he tricked me and ever since then I've been forced to work in his awful show. My life is so horrible, sometimes I wish that I could die. I can't go to school. I can't sleep at night, I'm so worried. What will become of me? What should I do?

ぎっ!!
ぎぎぎぎ……
LICK LICK
ぎっぎ
LICK
ぎっぎ
LICK
あっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
ふっ
SLURP
によろ…
NYUM

にょろにょろ
にょろろろ…
NYUM NYUM NYUMMM


GO ON,
GET OUT OF HERE!!

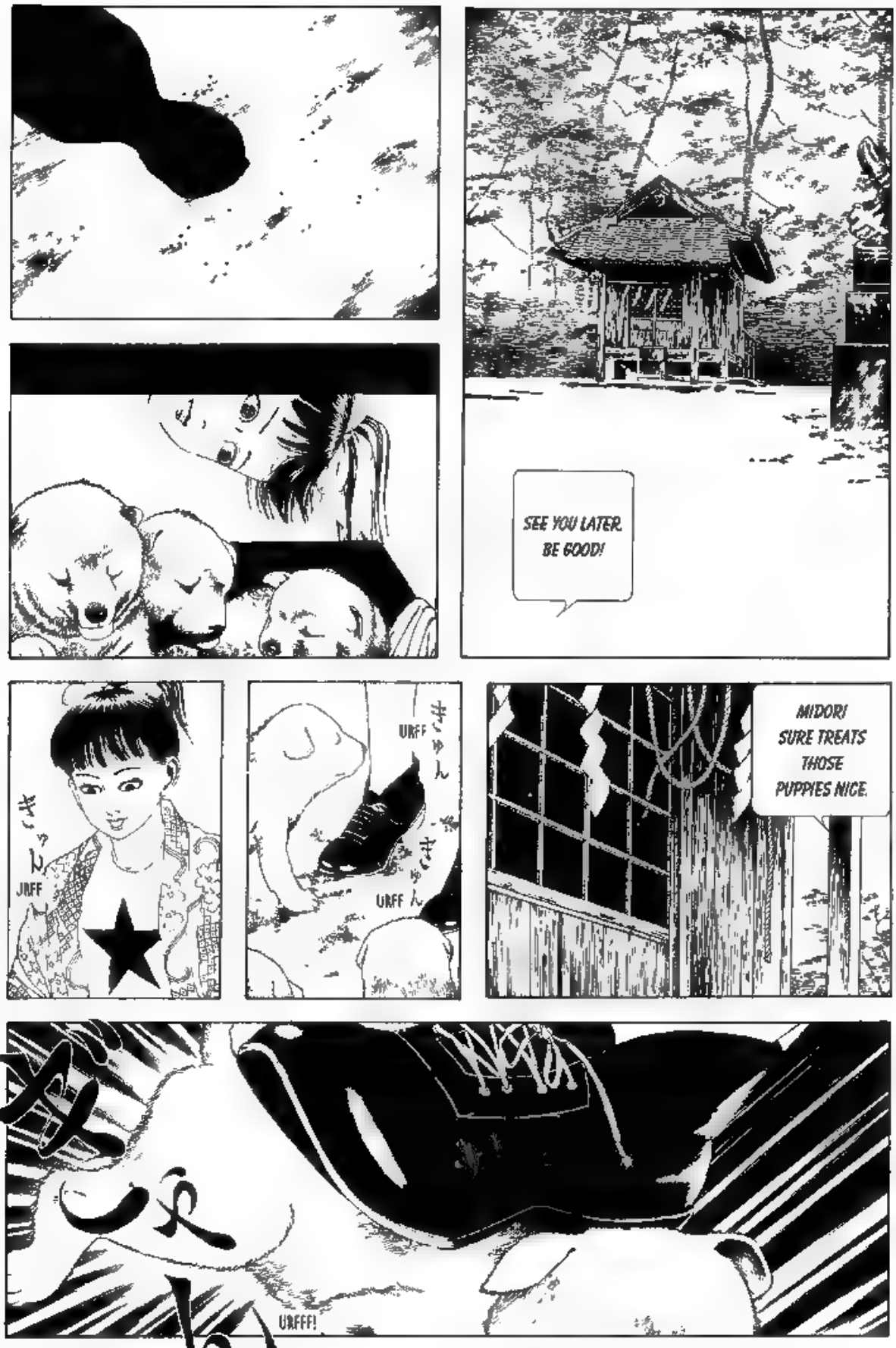
OOH, YOU HAVE A NICE BODY AND A NICE LITTLE PETER TOO!
I'M WOMAN ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF YOU.
あっあああっ
AH OOO AH
HA HA HA. HEY, MIDORI'S WATCHING.
COME HERE, MIDORI.
CUT THE CRAP SHE'S JUST A BABY. SHE'S HARDLY OUT OF DIAPERS.



URFF
URFF

IF THEY FOUND OUT, THEY WOULD EAT YOU.
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW. I'LL BE YOUR MOMMY. BUT DON'T TELL ANYBODY.

HERE, I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING TO EAT.


SEE YOU LATER. BE GOOD!
きゅん
URFF
きゅん
URFF
きゅん
URFF
MIDORI SURE TREATS THOSE PUPPIES NICE.
URFFF!

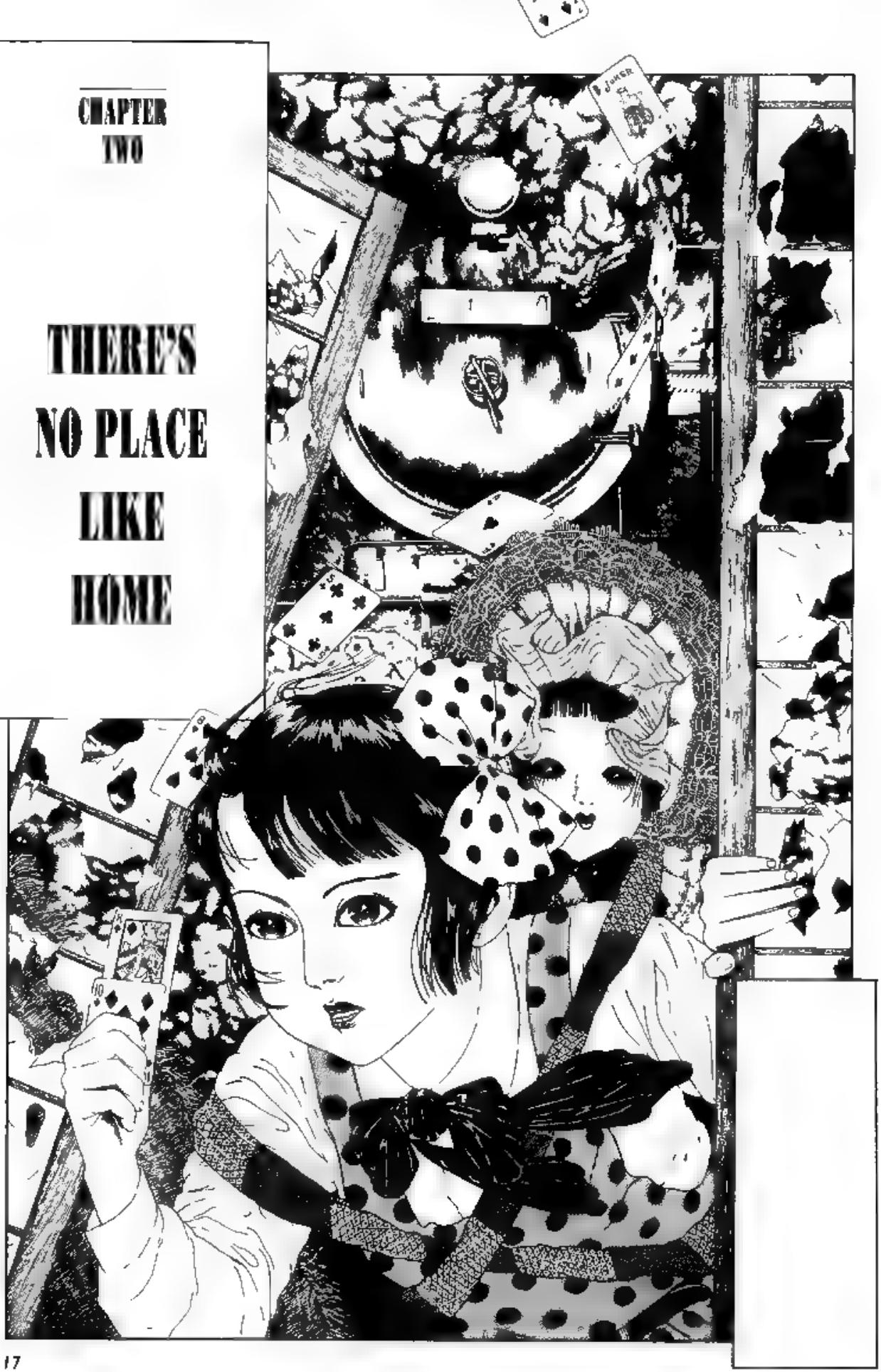
GRUNCH
GRUNCH
GRUNCH
GRUNCH
BASH. BASH. BASH.

WE HAVEN'T HAD MEAT FOR MONTHS.
OOOH, IT'S DELICIOUS, ISN'T IT?
DOG!!
NOBODY SELLS DOG MEAT, YOU KNOW THAT.
I DIDN'T BUY IT
HOW'D YOU GET THE MONEY FOR MEAT?
OH, WHAT A HARD, CRUEL LIFE YOU'VE HAD!
SHE'S WEEPING FOR JOY BECAUSE IT TASTES SO GOOD.
HEY, MIDORI, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
BA-TUMP

*MY LITTLE DOGGIES!*
*MY LITTLE DOGGIES!*

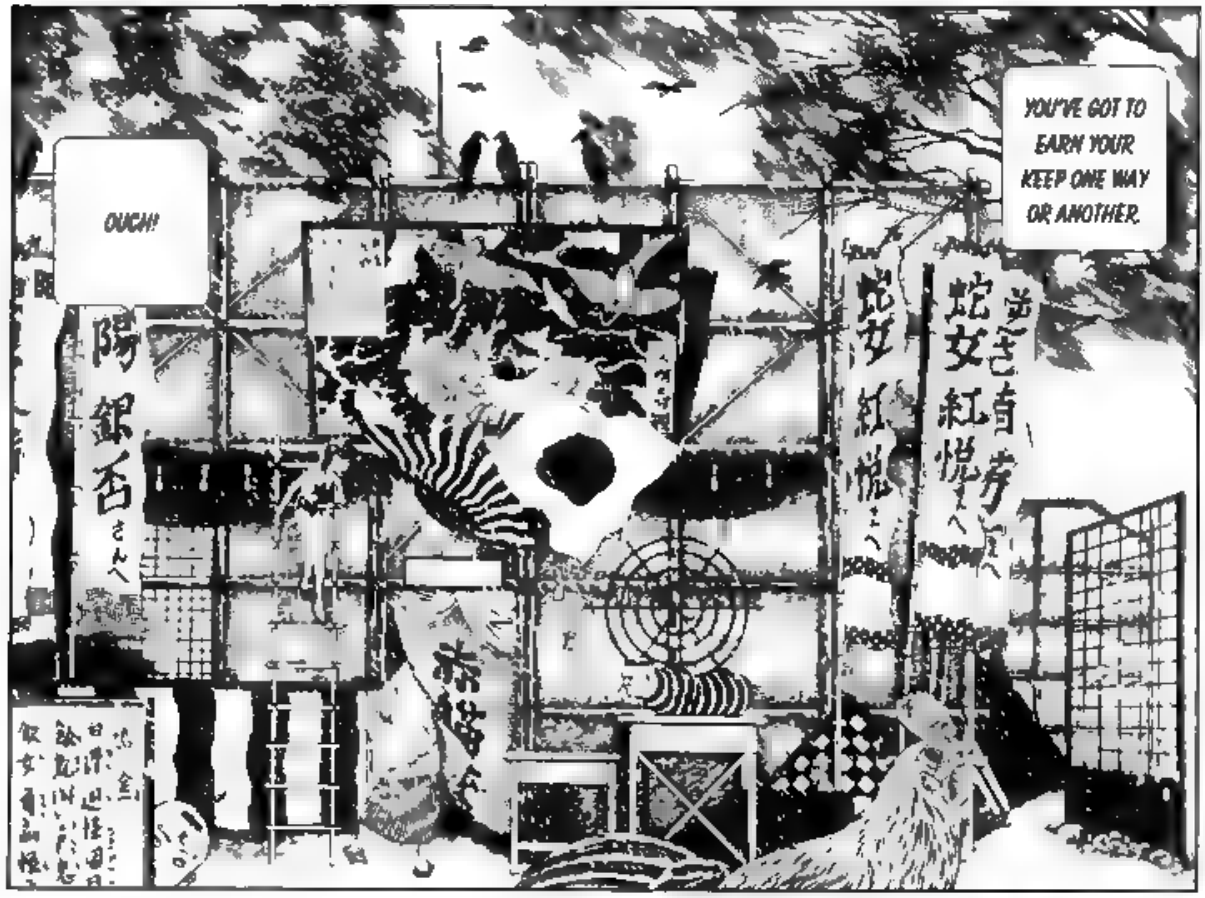
CHAPTER TWO

# THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME



WHOOO
GA-CHUFF!!
GA-CHUFF!!
グワッシュ!!
グワッシュ!!
GA-CHUFF!!
GA-CHUFF!!
グワッシュ!!
グワッシュ!!

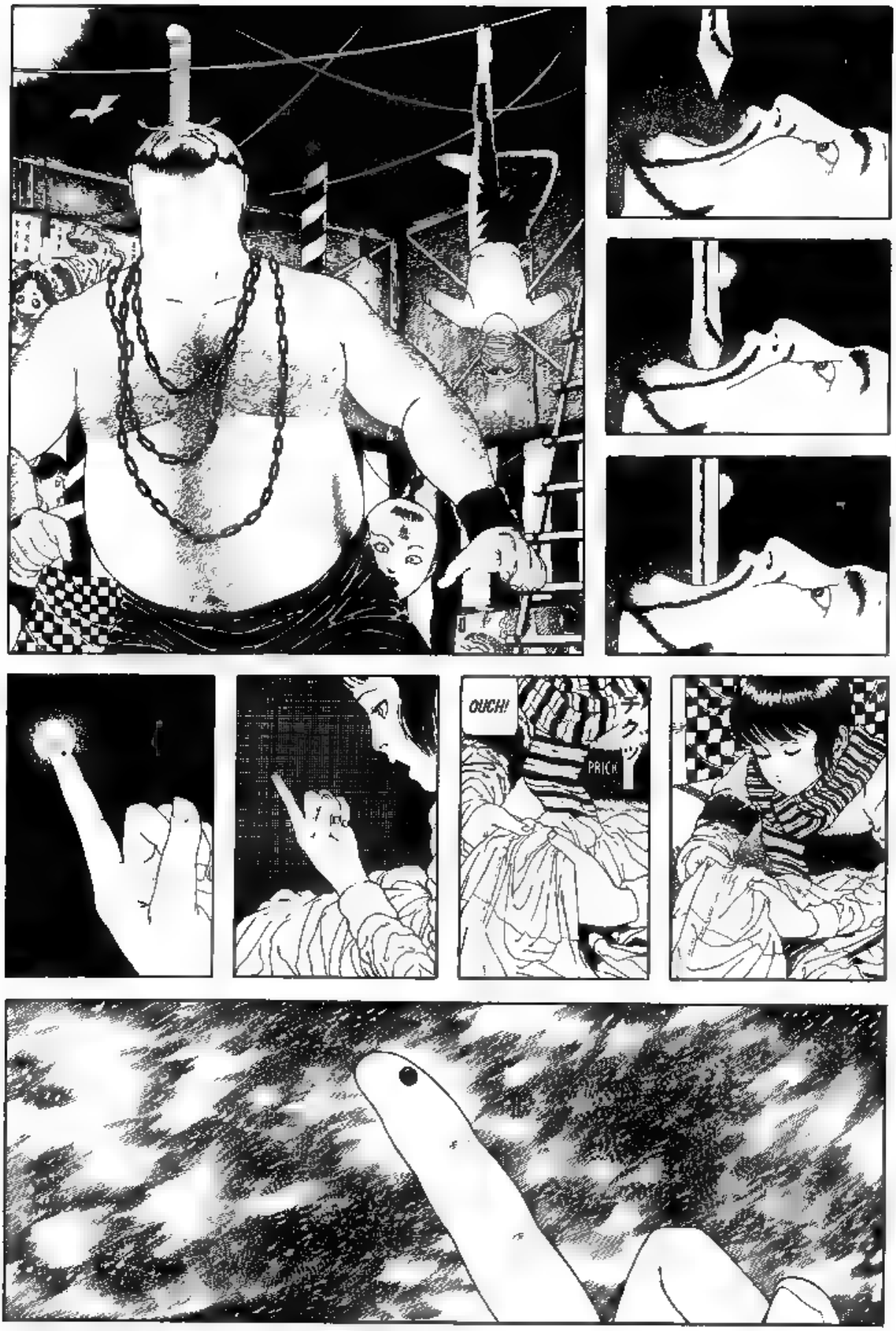
WHOOOOOOO
WHOO, HUH! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
BOP
WHOOO, WHOOO
FORGET IT, YOU DON'T HAVE A HOME THERE ANYMORE.
YOU THINK THEY'D TAKE YOU BACK TO TOKYO?
ALL YOU DO IS HANG AROUND WATCHING THE TRAINS.
WHOO, WHAT'S THAT, THE AIR WHISTLING IN YOUR EMPTY LITTLE HEAD?

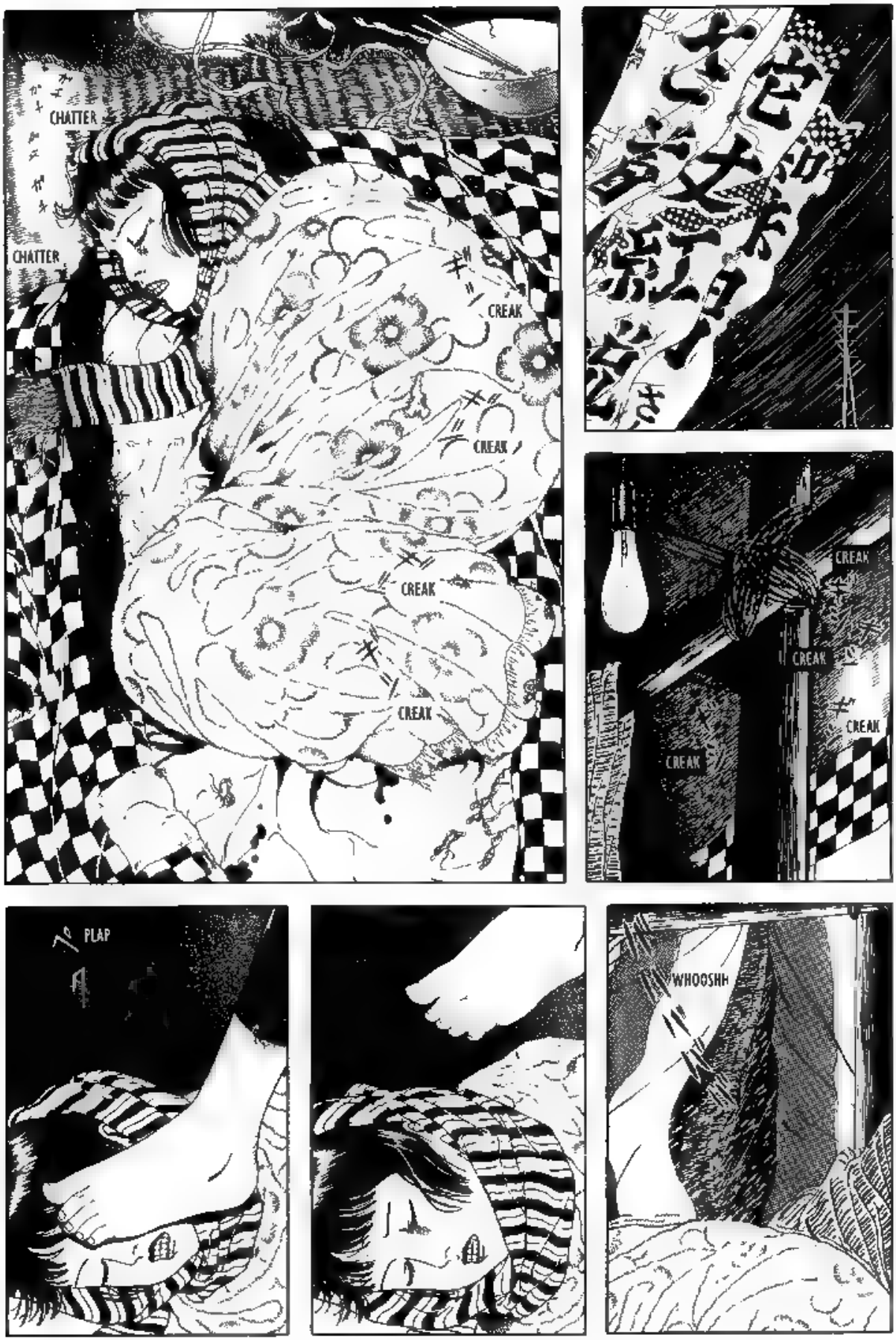

OUCH!
YOU'VE GOT TO EARN YOUR KEEP ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

は
HHH
は
HHH

AND AS SOON AS YOU'VE FINISHED YOU CAN SEW UP THE TEAR IN THE CURTAIN.
WASH THAT TOO!

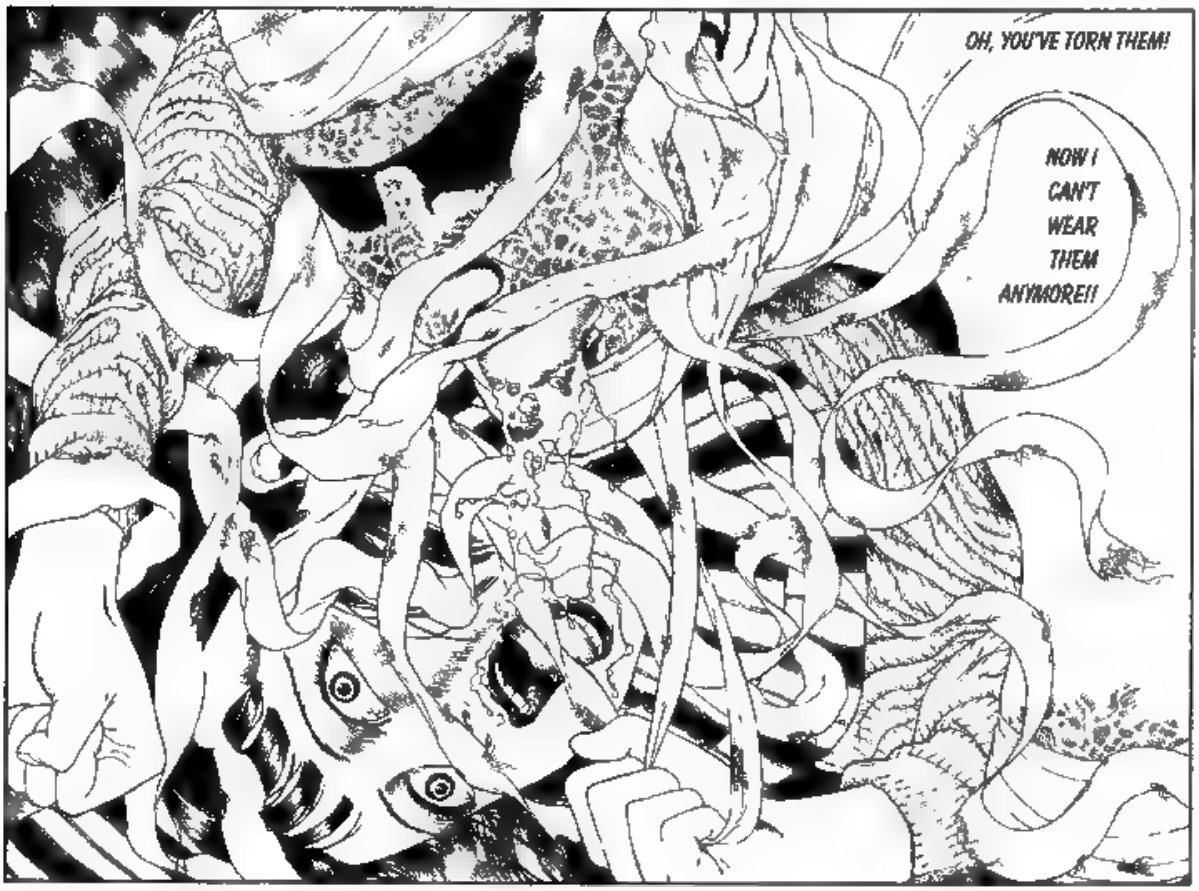
CUT THE CRAP! YOU EAT FIVE TIMES AS MUCH AS ME.
I CAN'T KEEP WORKING WITH NOTHING BUT THESE NOODLES TO EAT EVERYDAY.
SORRY
WELL, THERE'S NONE LEFT FOR YOU.
OOOOH, NOODLES
ONE TIME AT SCHOOL THEY MADE US TAKE A PILL IN CASE WE HAD WORMS.
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME SO FUNNY?
URR
RRRR
SHUT UP! YOU'RE SICK.
TUM?
IT WAS SO SLIPPERY...
BUT IT ONLY CAME HALFWAY OUT, SO I HAD TO PULL IT OUT WITH MY FINGERS.
THEN THIS WORM THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE A NOODLE CAME OUT OF MY BUTT


OUCH!
チク
PRICK


CHATTER
CHATTER
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
PLAP
WHOOSHH

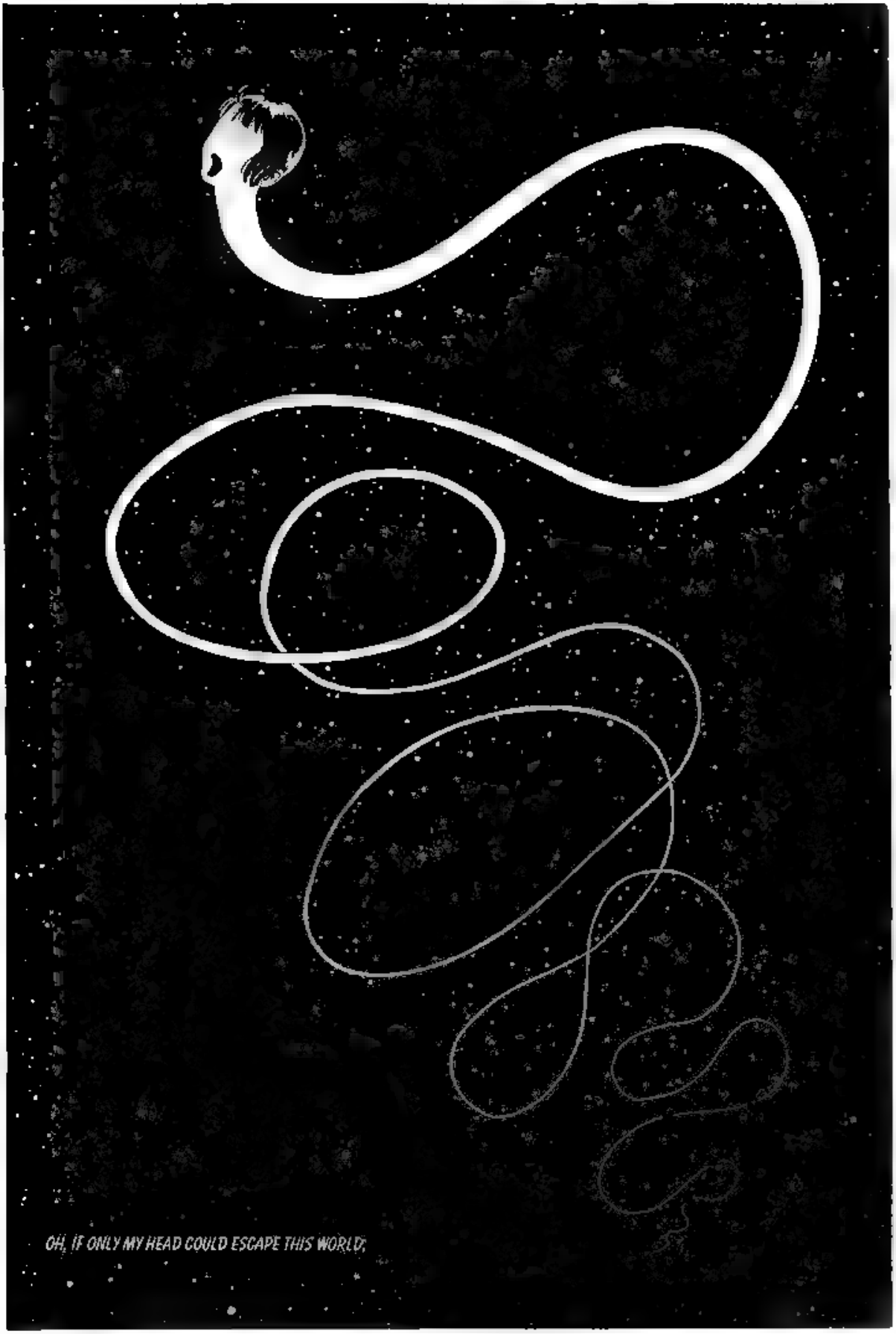
NO! GO AWAY!!
AREN'T YOU COLD ALL BY YOURSELF?
WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP WITH THE REST OF US?
YIPES!
IT'S TOO COLD. WE COULD STAY WARM TOGETHER.
I CAN'T SLEEP EITHER.
OH, COME ON. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'VE BEEN LAID BEFORE, I KNOW IT.
GET AWAY FROM ME!
YOU SMELL ROTTEN! I HATE YOU!

COTTON UNDIES ARE SO WARM HOW THEY REMIND ME OF MOM'S CUNTIE
COTTON UNDIES, COTTON UNDIES
LITTLE COTTON UNDIES
SO MUCH BETTER THAN SATIN PANTIES


OH, YOU'VE TORN THEM!
NOW I CAN'T WEAR THEM ANYMORE!!

!!
ALL RIGHT! I GOT IT
PTSSSS
WOW, IS IT EVER COLD.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?
WIGGLE WAGGLE
HUH!?
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!
はははははははは
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA


OH, IF ONLY MY HEAD COULD ESCAPE THIS WORLD!

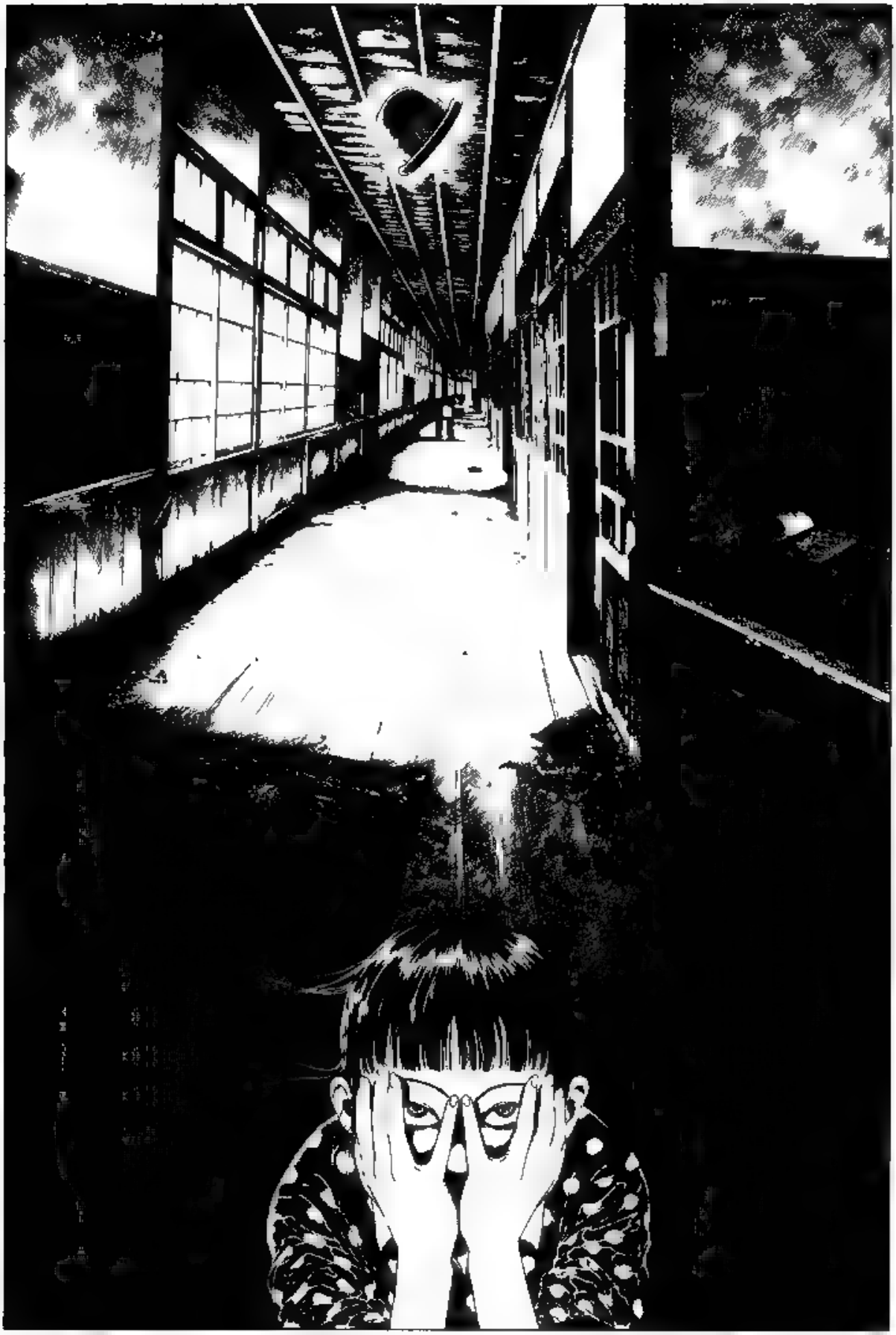
MIDORI,
IT'S TIME
TO GIVE
HOHICHI A BATH.
OWWW!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
GET THE FUCK BACK TO WORK!!

MIDORI, AFTER YOU GIVE HOHICHI A BATH, GIVE ME ONE TOO.
MONSTERS!!
HURRY UP, IT'S COLD!
MONSTERS MONSTERS MONSTERS!!
MONSTERS!! MONSTERS!!

ばけものおぉ!!
MONSTERS!!

ALL I WANT IS TO GO ON A FIELD TRIP...

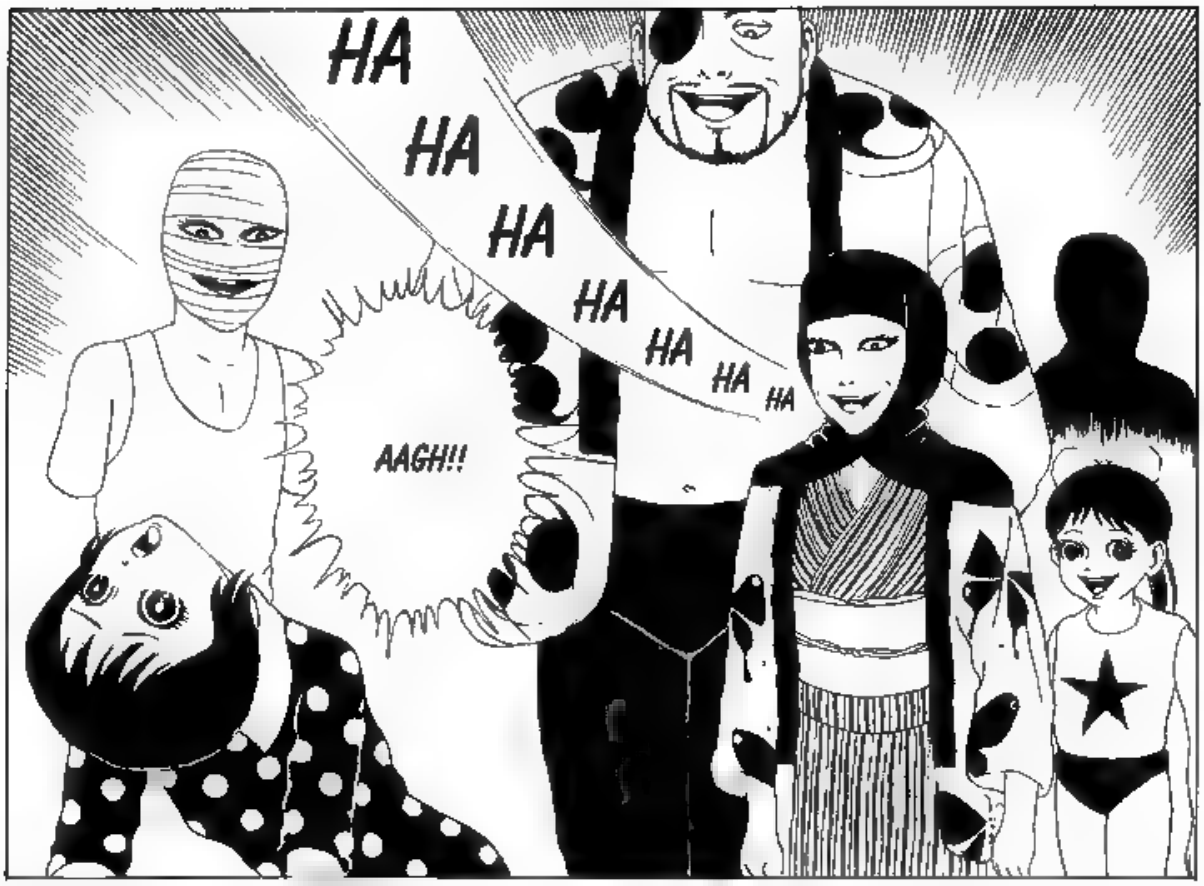
CHAPTER THREE
OUT OF THE BLUE
YIPES!



CRUNCH
DADDY?
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
DADDY..
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
DADDY?
AAAAAAAH!
CRUNCH
AAAAGH!

AAGH!! AAGH!!
AAGH!! AAGH!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
DADDY!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
HELP!!
CRUNCH
DADDY!
HELP ME!!
HELP
ME!!
OH,
HELP ME!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
HELP!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
AAGHHH!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH


HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
AAGH!!

NOBODY'S GONNA HELP YOU, MIDORI.

STOP IT!!
I'LL TURN YOU INTO A SNAKE!!

HELP ME!
DOES IT HURT, MIDORI? IT'S GONNA HURT EVEN MORE!

YOU'LL NEVER FIND HAPPINESS AS A HUMAN BEING, KID.
SHHHP

AAAAAAAAAHHHHHH!
ZHHHP

UH-OH. YOU'VE GOT A FEVER.

WAH!

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

JUST STAY IN BED AND REST. YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY WORK TODAY.

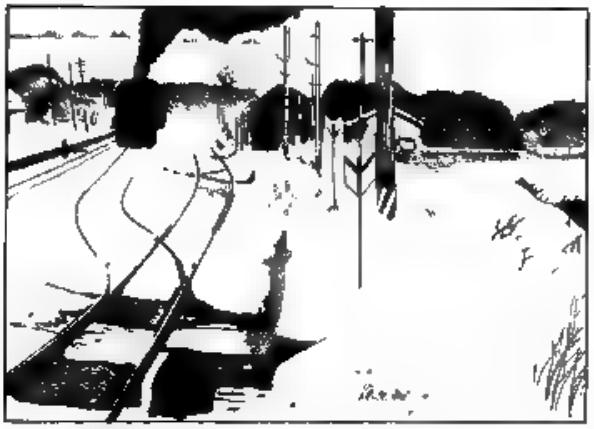
OH!

WE'RE GOING DOWN THE DRAIN.
DAMN!
SHIK
SHIK
CHIK
CHIK
YOU CAN'T JUST DITCH US LIKE THAT!!
WHAT DO YOU EYPECT ME TO DO ABOUT IT— WE'RE FLAT BROKE.
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO GET PAID?
BOSS, YOU CAN'T SAY THAT.
HMM .. SURELY YOU COULD GET A LITTLE MONEY FOR ME
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
WE HAVEN'T TAKEN IN A CENT FOR THREE MONTHS.
A LITTLE MONEY WOULD BE SO NICE.

HUH!
WHAT A [illegible]!
NOBODY COMES TO SEE THE SHOW ANYMORE. WE'LL NEVER GET [illegible] TO GET OUT OF HERE.
ARE WE JUST GONNA STARVE TO DEATH?
SHUK
NOW WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
HE'S A FOOL TO JOIN THIS LOUSY CARNY ACT.
THEY SAY HE USES WESTERN MAGIC.
I HEAR ARASHI'S FOUND SOME NEW GUY FOR THE SHOW.
WE'RE REALLY SCREWED!
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET SOME WORK DIGGING DITCHES.

HEY, MIDORI, WHY DON'T YOU GO SLEEP SOMEWHERE ELSE. WE DON'T WANT TO CATCH YOUR COLD!
IT AIN'T MY FAULT, MAN.
WELL IT AIN'T MY FAULT WE GOT NO AUDIENCE.
EVER SINCE SHE GOT HERE OUR FREAK SHOW'S BEEN SHOT TO HELL.
MAYBE MIDORI'S SOME KIND OF JINX.
COUGH, COUGH
SO WHOSE FAULT IS IT?
WELL, IT AIN'T MY FAULT EITHER!!
COME HERE, BOY.
OWWW! I GOT SOMETHING IN MY EYE

WHOOO
WHOOO



FOREVER WANDERING
UNDER THIS LIGHT OF THE AURORA,
THIS ENDLESS SIBERIA.

GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. NO, NO NEED TO BE ALARMED. IT'S REALLY QUITE COMFORTABLE INSIDE THIS BOTTLE.

PFFF
URRK
URRK
URRK
URRK
OOOOH!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF I'M MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER. DELIGHTED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

PLAT
OH!
A LITTLE [redacted] FOR YOU!
NOW, GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
VOILÀ!
チュ
PECK ッ……
WON'T YOU GIVE ME A KISS TOO?

I LOVE YOU, MASAMITSU.
MY DEAR SWEET MIDORI, YOU ARE SO CUTE.

CHAPTER FOUR

# FAME AND MEDIOCRITY

WOW,
IT'S BEAUTIFUL!
MISTER
HUH?!
WHERE ARE
YOU, MISTER?
WHERE?!
I'M HERE!!

WAIT!!
HUH
HUH

I COULD MARRY YOU . . .
BUT I'M NOT A VIRGIN ANYMORE.

[redacted]
MIDGET IN A BOTTLE

# 幻獣 瓶の中の一寸法師

## 世界一!!
## ワンダー正光氏

THE ONE AND ONLY MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER!!

RIGHT THIS WAY! PAY AS YOU GO! IT'S A FEAST FOR THE EYE AND THE MIND!
OUT OF MY WAY, YOU. .
I WANNA SIT UP FRONT!
BOOM
YOU JERK— STOP PUSHING!

TONK
GET OFF THE STAGE, YOU BOZO!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! WATCH THE MUMMY MAN HIT THE BULL'S-EYE!
UH, EXCUSE ME, SIR—ARE YOU READY TO GO ON?
BRING OUT MASAMITSU!
WE WANT MASAMITSU!
MIDORI, SWEETIE, ARE YOU ALMOST READY?
IN A MOMENT.
UHHH—SIR?
YEP!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!
ヤーーー

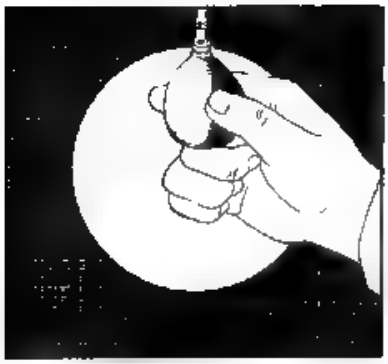
AAAHHH!!
URRK
I JUST DON'T GET IT .
GODDAMN HIM!
SHIT, THAT FUCKING MIDGET'S STEALING THE WHOLE SHOW.
I JUST CAN'T SEE HOW THE TRICK WORKS
HOW THE HELL DOES HE DO IT?
I'VE SEEN IT A MILLION TIMES AND I STILL CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT

The curtain rises. At center stage stands a vase three feet in height whose mouth measures at about a foot and a half in diameter. Ittoku appears on stage and tilts the vase down to show the audience it is empty. Then he places the vase atop a large table beneath which there is nothing—no devices of any kind. Several feet behind the table hangs a white curtain from above. Six candles encircling the table are lit, and they illuminate the stage very brightly. Dressed in a suit and holding a red handkerchief in his hand, Ittoku steps into the vase and stands up straight. The vase comes up only to his knees. As the crowd roars, Ittoku protests that it is too difficult to get into the bottle. But the carny barker standing alongside him objects, "You know you always like getting into the vase—what's this sudden reluctance?" The handkerchief clasped in his right hand, Ittoku begins to sink down into the vase. His shoulders disappear, and after lingering a moment at the edge of the vase, the handkerchief too disappears into the vessel. Suddenly the barker claps his hands and calls out to Ittoku. A voice resounds from inside the vase. As the voice continues to speak from within the vase, in the ceiling directly above a hole opens up from which Ittoku slowly descends, still holding the handkerchief in his hand. He stands again in the vase and declares, "[illegible] escape by ascension; this time I [illegible] escape by descending." Immediately he sinks into the vase as before, but this time the handkerchief remains half in and half outside the vase. Again the barker claps and calls out to Ittoku. And from within the vase a voice

UH-HUH.
MR. MASAMITSU, SIR, THAT WAS STUPENDOUS!
MR. MASAMITSU, SIR .
PLEASE, YOU NEEDN'T TROUBLE YOURSELF OVER ME. JUST BRING SOME WARM MILK FOR DEAR MIDORI.
HEY YOU BUMS, WHY DON'T YOU MAKE YOURSELVES USEFUL AND GET MR. MASAMITSU SOME TEA.
OH!
IT IS ONLY BECAUSE OF YOU THAT MY PERFORMANCE WENT SO WELL TODAY I THANK YOU FROM THE
HAHAH
HUH. HE CALLS MIDORI HIS ASSISTANT BUT ALL SHE DOES IS FUCKING STAND THERE.

READY?

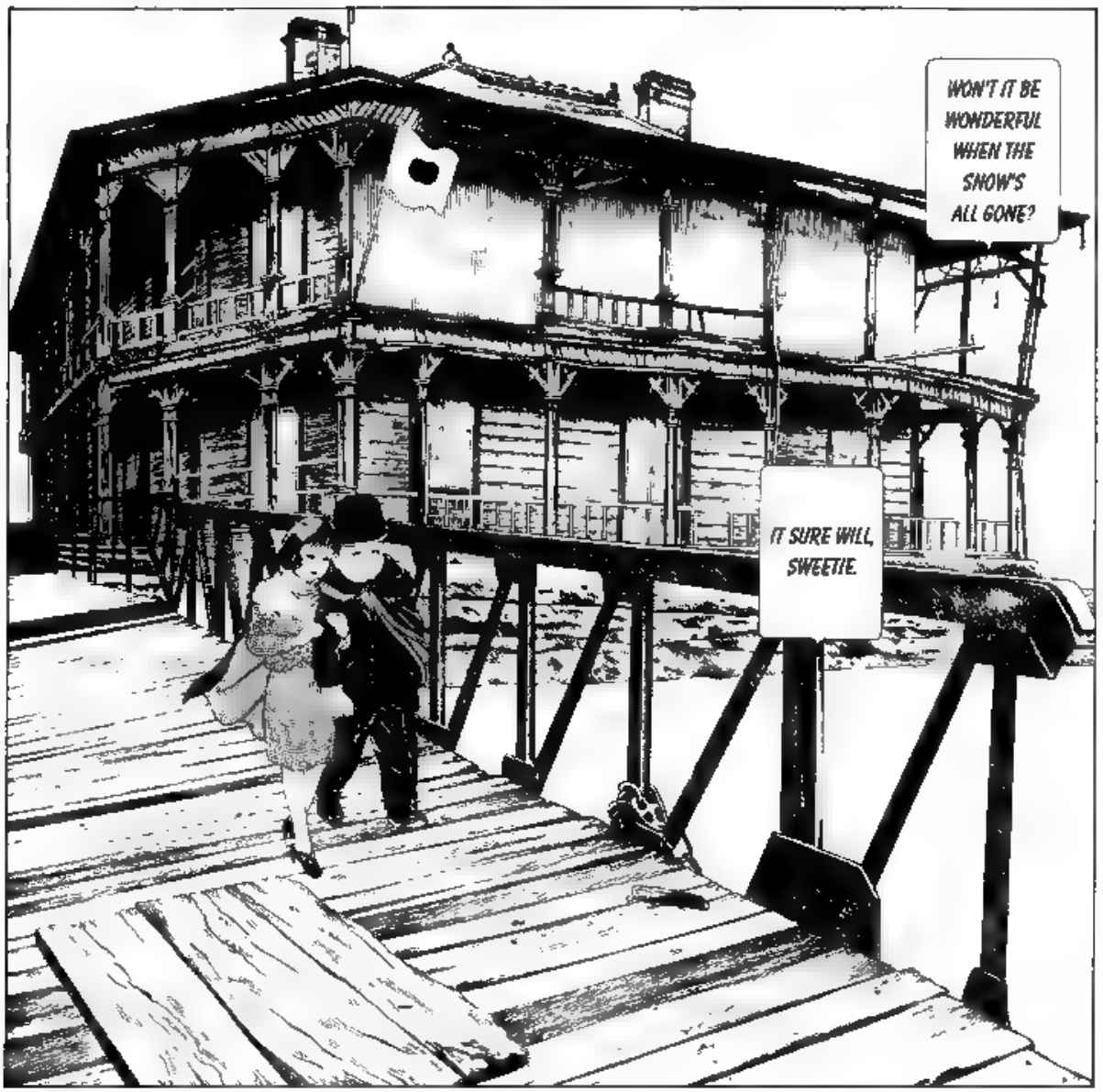
NOW, SMILE!

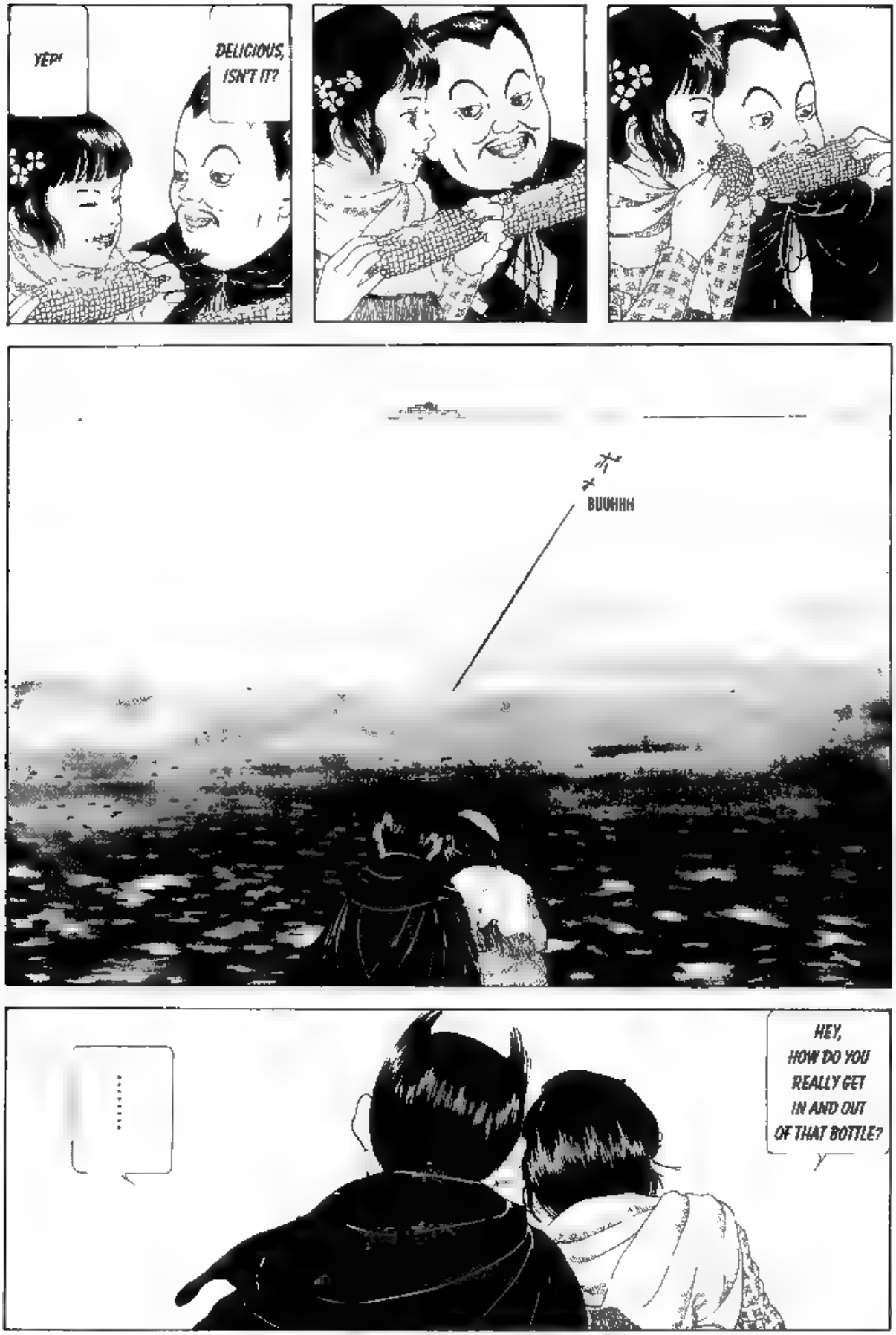


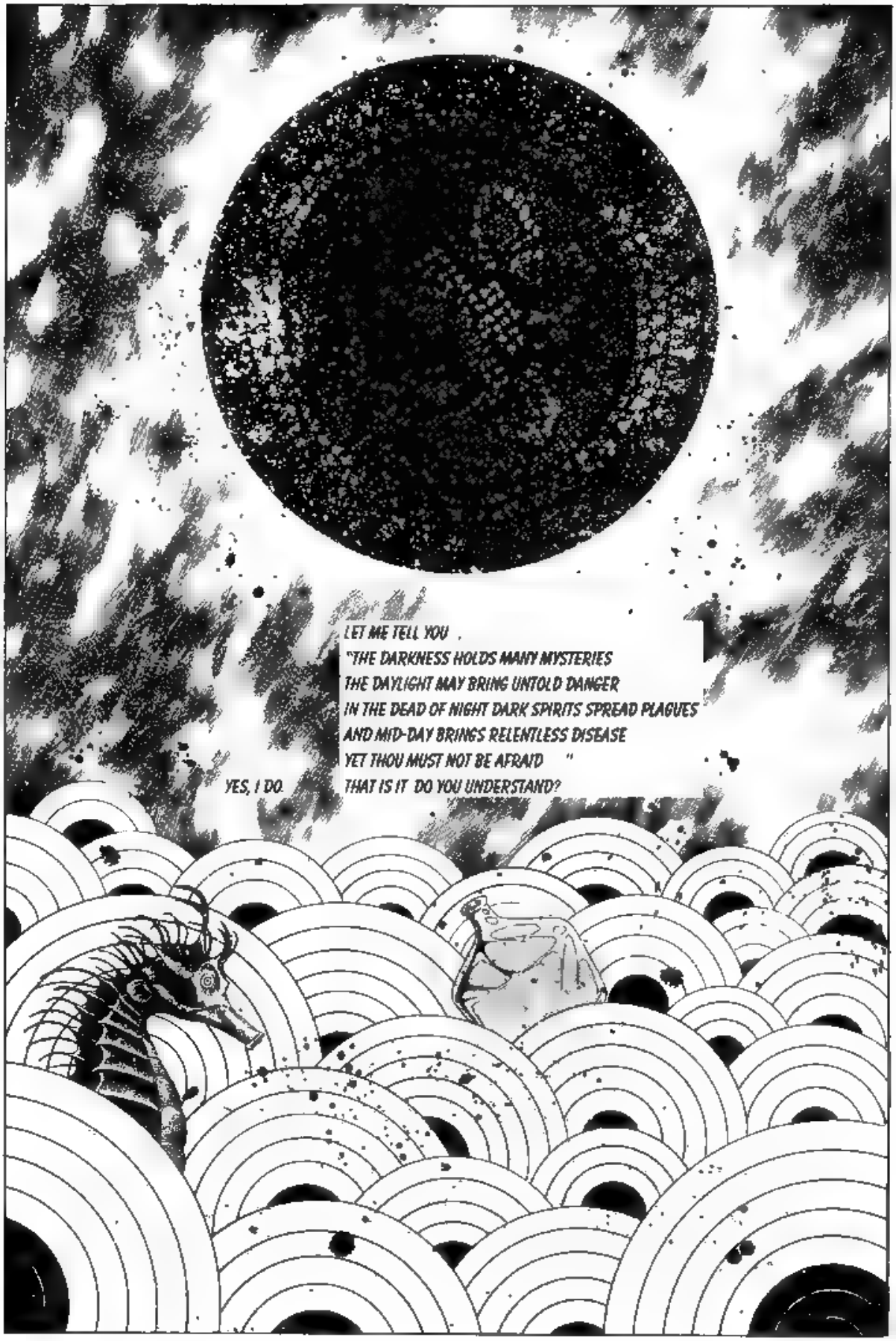
# Izumi Photo Studio

CLICK

ME TOO.
OH, I HOPE OUR PHOTO TURNS OUT NICE.


WON'T IT BE WONDERFUL WHEN THE SNOW'S ALL GONE?
IT SURE WILL, SWEETIE.

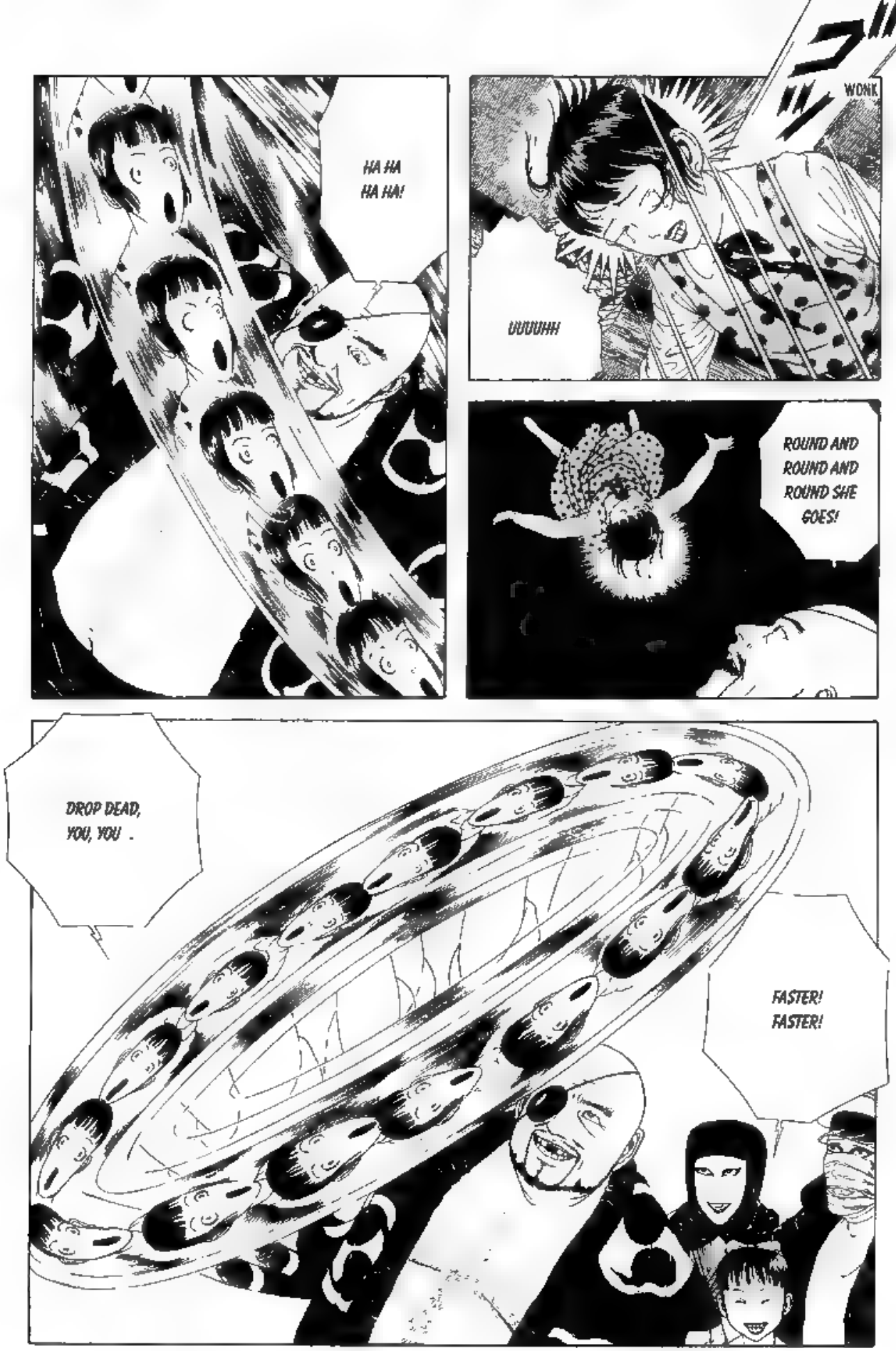

YEP!
DELICIOUS, ISN'T IT?
BUUHHH
.....
HEY, HOW DO YOU REALLY GET IN AND OUT OF THAT BOTTLE?


LET ME TELL YOU .
"THE DARKNESS HOLDS MANY MYSTERIES
THE DAYLIGHT MAY BRING UNTOLD DANGER
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT DARK SPIRITS SPREAD PLAGUES
AND MID-DAY BRINGS RELENTLESS DISEASE
YET THOU MUST NOT BE AFRAID "
THAT IS IT DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
YES, I DO.

YOU AIN'T GOT TIME TO BE STARING INTO NO MIRRORS.
WHAT ABOUT THE FUCKING LAUNDRY, HUH?
WELL, WELL. JUST LOOK AT MIDORI. SHE'S IN LOVE WITH THE STAR OF THE SHOW.

YOU LITTLE FOOL!
GODDAMMIT
GET A LOAD OF HER!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO DO THE LAUNDRY ANYWAY.
DAMN YOU, YOU UGLY MUMMY!
STOP IT! I JUST GOT MY MAKEUP PUT ON!
LEAVE ME ALONE, YOU JERK!
HOW..
YOU'RE JUST ASKING FOR IT.
I'M GONNA TELL MY OLD MAN!
YOU WOULDN'T EVEN SURVIVE WITHOUT MASAMITSU AND ME!
WELL, DID YOU HEAR THAT? MY OLD MAN, SHE SAID. HAH!

GYAAAA!
HERE YOU GO!
GRAB
NO! STOP IT!!
HEY, YOU CAN FLY!

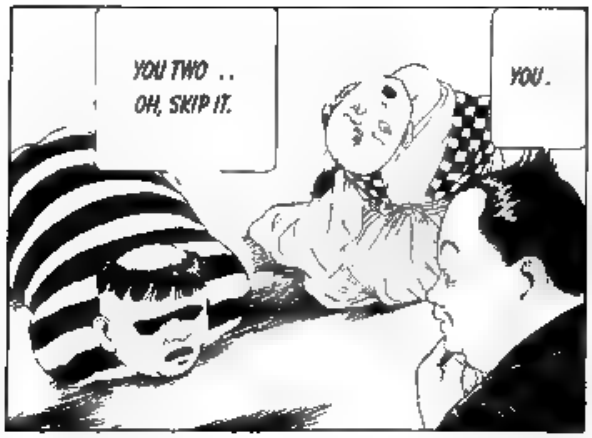

HA HA
HA HA!
WONK
UUUUHH
ROUND AND
ROUND AND
ROUND SHE
GOES!
DROP DEAD,
YOU, YOU .
FASTER!
FASTER!

HOOOOM

MIDORI'S TURNED INTO A GIANT!
WHA—
MIDORI'S TURNED INTO A GIANT!
MIDORI'S TURNED INTO A GIANT!

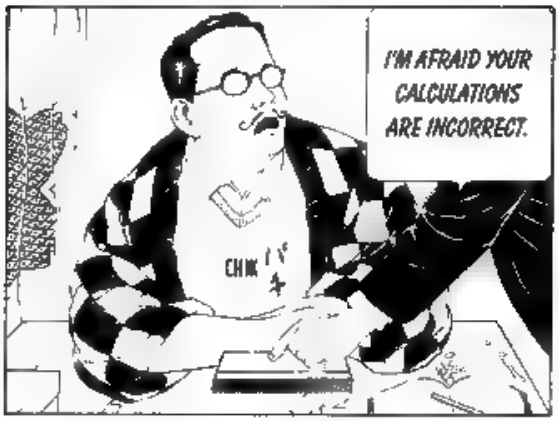
HUH?
[illegible] DID I HEAR SOMEONE SAY [illegible] ABOUT MIDORI?
MIDORI, SWEETIE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SHE'S RIGHT OVER THERE. LOOK.

WHY, YOU . .
UH, EXCUSE ME, SIR, THERE'S A SPECK OF LINT ON YOUR SHOULDER.
きおつけえ!!
ATTENTION!
EVERYBODY COUNT OFF!
ONE
TWO
THREE
FOUR
AND A HALF
FIVE

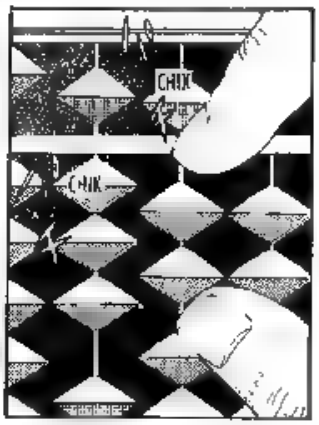

YOU TWO . . OH, SKIP IT.
YOU.

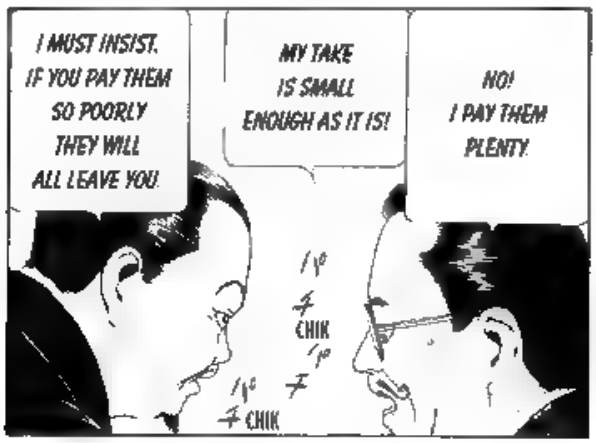
YOU FIX THE TENT
YOU DO THE WASHING.
YOU WILL COOK THE MEALS.
YOU CLEAN UP BACKSTAGE.

I'LL GIVE YOU SOME MONEY SO YOU CAN GO OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN.
MIDORI, YOU NEEDN'T DO ANYTHING.


I'M AFRAID YOUR CALCULATIONS ARE INCORRECT.
CHIK

HEH, HEH, HEH. IT'S EASY MONEY.

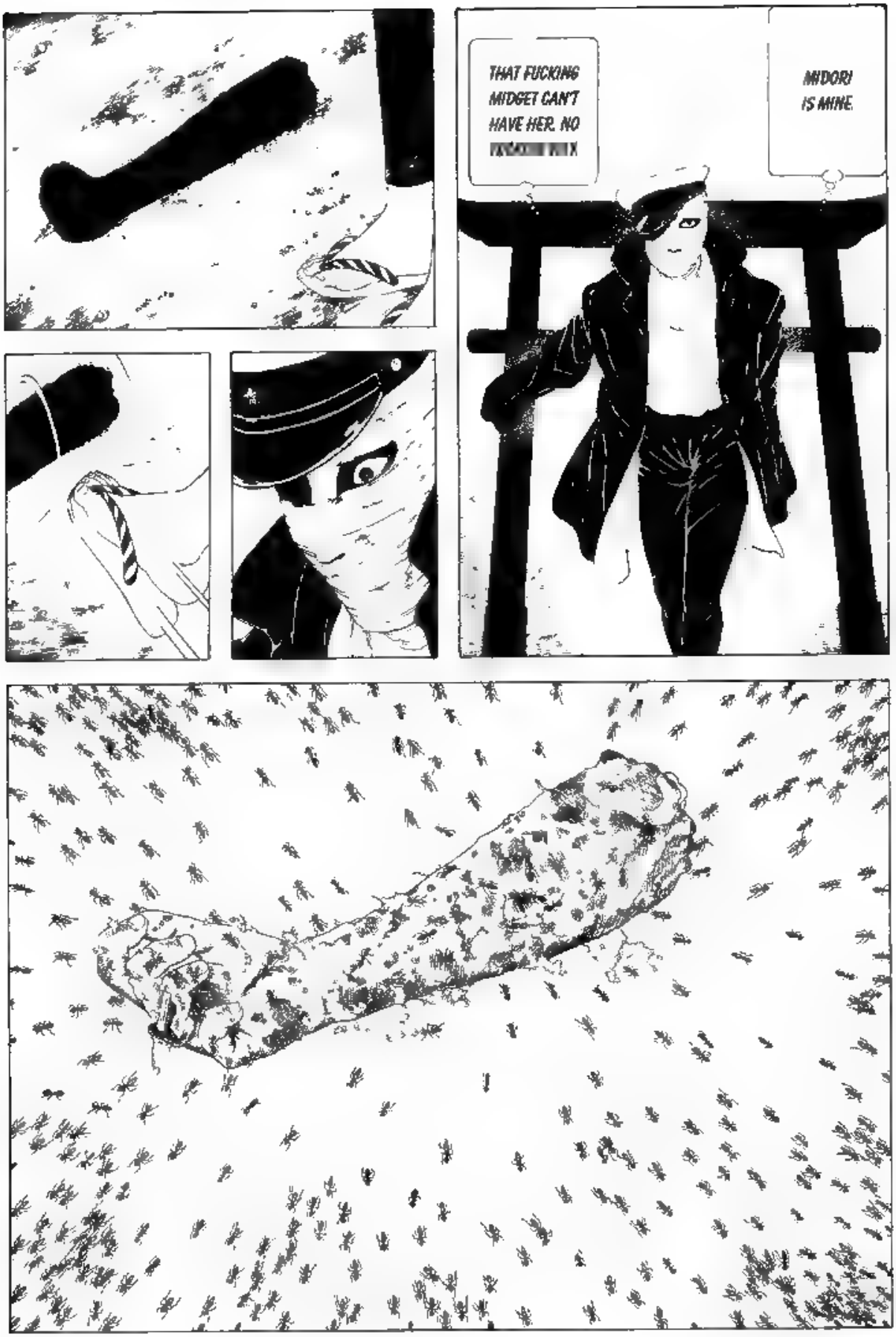

CHIK
CHIK


I MUST INSIST. IF YOU PAY THEM SO POORLY THEY WILL ALL LEAVE YOU.
MY TAKE IS SMALL ENOUGH AS IT IS!
NO! I PAY THEM PLENTY.
CHIK
CHIK

COME NOW. THIS WOULD SUFFICE. YOU'VE PROFITED ENOUGH.
BUT SIR, THAT AMOUNT WON'T EVEN COVER THE OVERHEAD
CHIK
CHIK

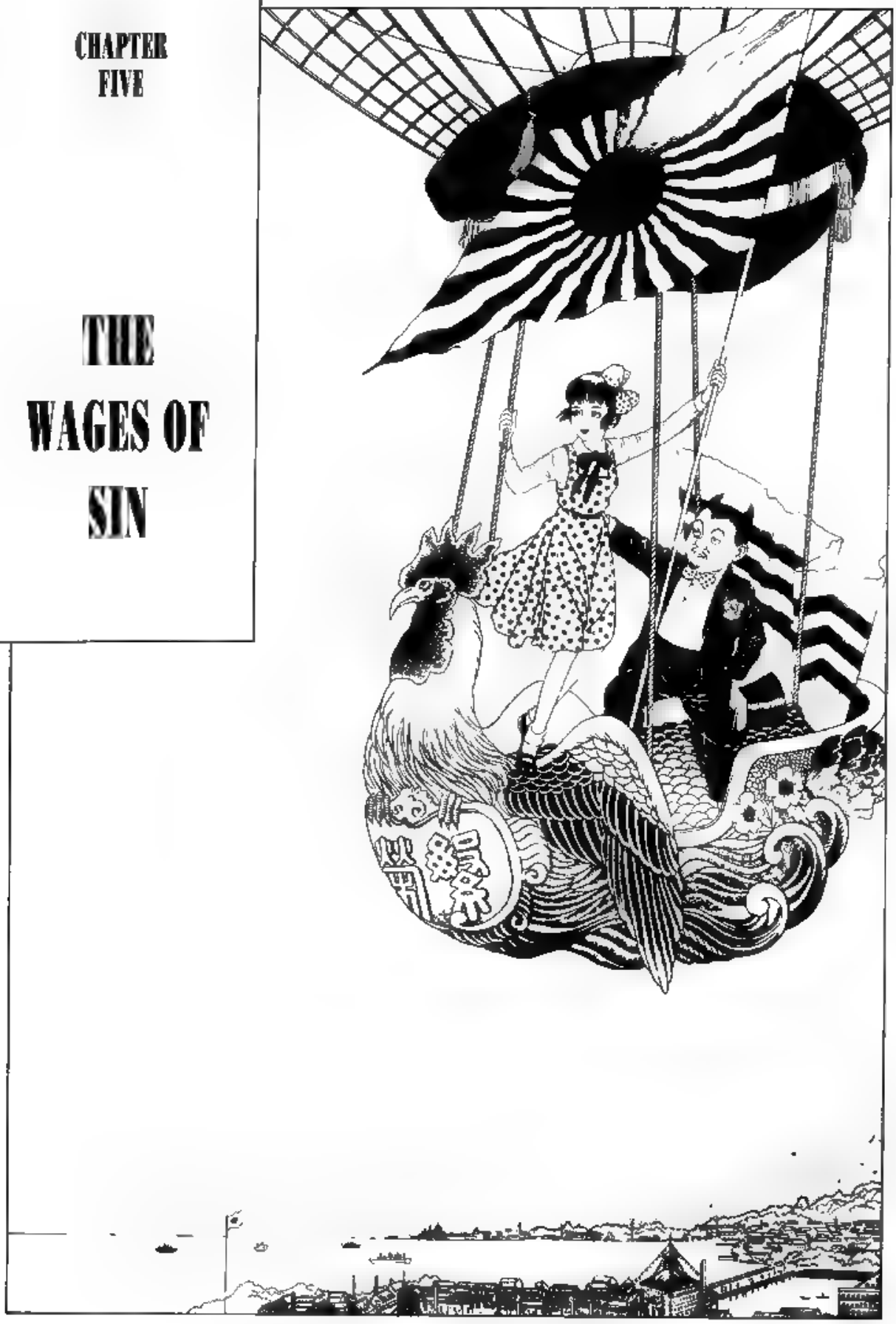
LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME.
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY. I'LL—
TEE HEE HEE..
TEE HEE HEE HEE HEE ..
I PROMISE I'LL NEVER BULLY YOU AGAIN.
SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
TEE HEE HEE
MIDORI..

LET'S BE FRIENDS AGAIN.
IT'S JUST THAT LATELY YOU'VE . .
YOU KNOW
I REALLY LIKE YOU.
BELIEVE ME. I DO.


THAT FUCKING MIDGET CAN'T HAVE HER. NO
MIDORI IS MINE.

CHAPTER
FIVE

# THE WAGES OF SIN



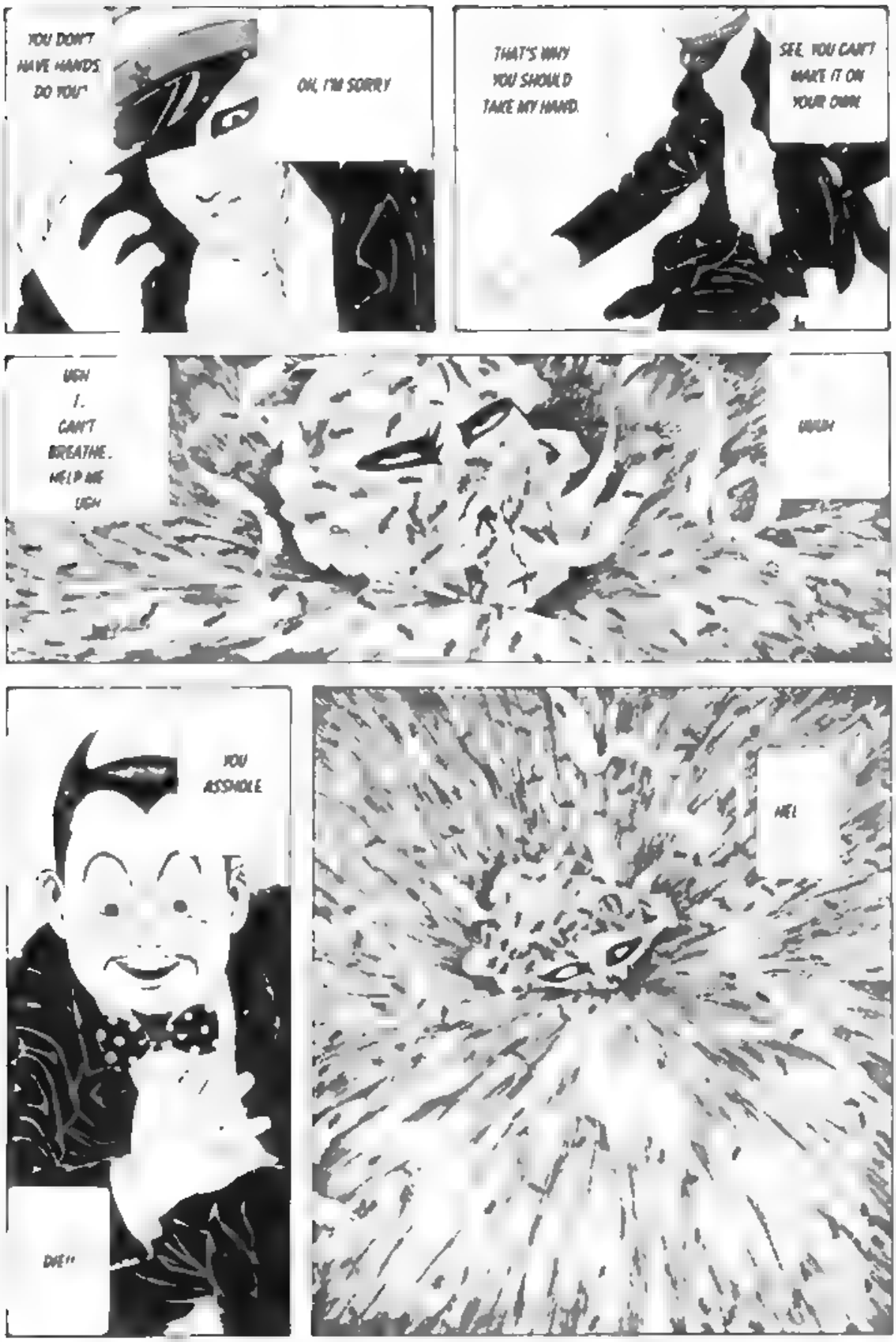
HELP
HELP!
WAAAAH!!

WHO
WHO
ARE YOU?

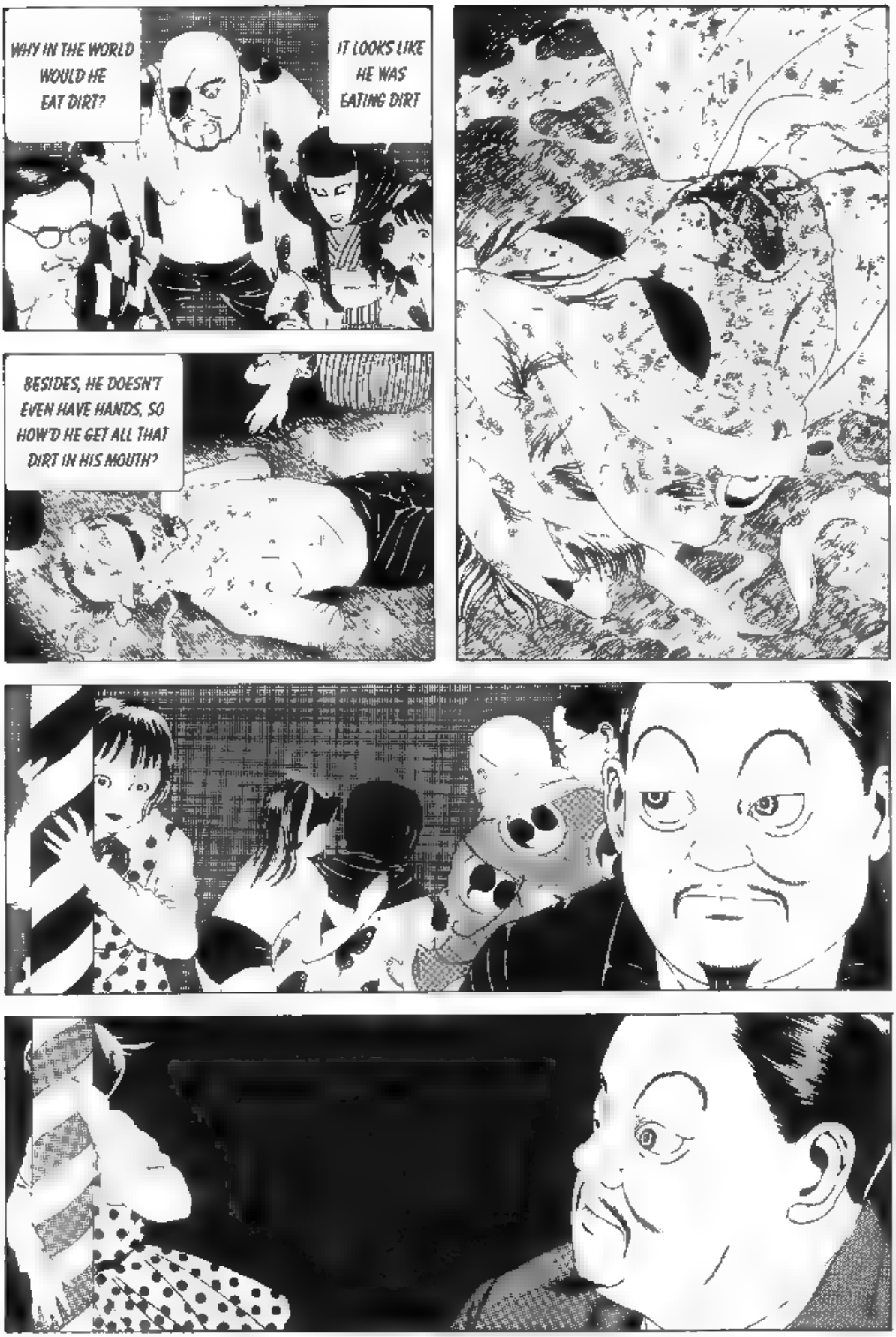
I AM YOU

TAKE
MY HAND.

NO. I AM YOU.
MA MASAMITSU!!!
OH NO, I'M NOT FALLING FOR THAT TRICK.
YOU BASTARD!
FSSH
MA
HAVING SOME TROUBLE?
ALL RIGHT, THEN YOU CAN GET OUT OF THAT HOLE BY YOURSELF.
YOU'RE GOING TO SINK IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING QUICK.
FSSH
SSH
SSH
URGH UMPH


YOU DON'T HAVE HANDS, DO YOU?
OH, I'M SORRY
THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD TAKE MY HAND.
SEE, YOU CAN'T MAKE IT ON YOUR OWN.
UGH I, CAN'T BREATHE. HELP ME UGH
UGH
YOU ASSHOLE
DIE!!
HE!

WOW! I GOT A RAISE!
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK.
HEY, WHERE'S THE MUMMY MAN? SOMEBODY GO FIND HIM.
ME TOO!


WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD HE EAT DIRT?
IT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS EATING DIRT
BESIDES, HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE HANDS, SO HOW'D HE GET ALL THAT DIRT IN HIS MOUTH?

MIDORI, WAIT!!

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?

YOU WERE WATCHING, WEREN'T YOU?
MIDORI!!!

YOU SAW IT!!!

YES, I SAW IT!! YOU WERE SHOVING DIRT IN HIS MOUTH
THEY'D HUNT US DOWN IF THEY FOUND OUT
WE MUSN'T TELL A SOUL
I'M SCARED!
I DID IT FOR YOU, MIDORI
WE'RE BETTER OFF WITH THAT ASSHOLE DEAD

HEY, MIDORI, YOU GOT SOME VISITORS HERE.

WE'D LIKE TO SEE MISS MIDORI.
HELLO, EXCUSE ME.

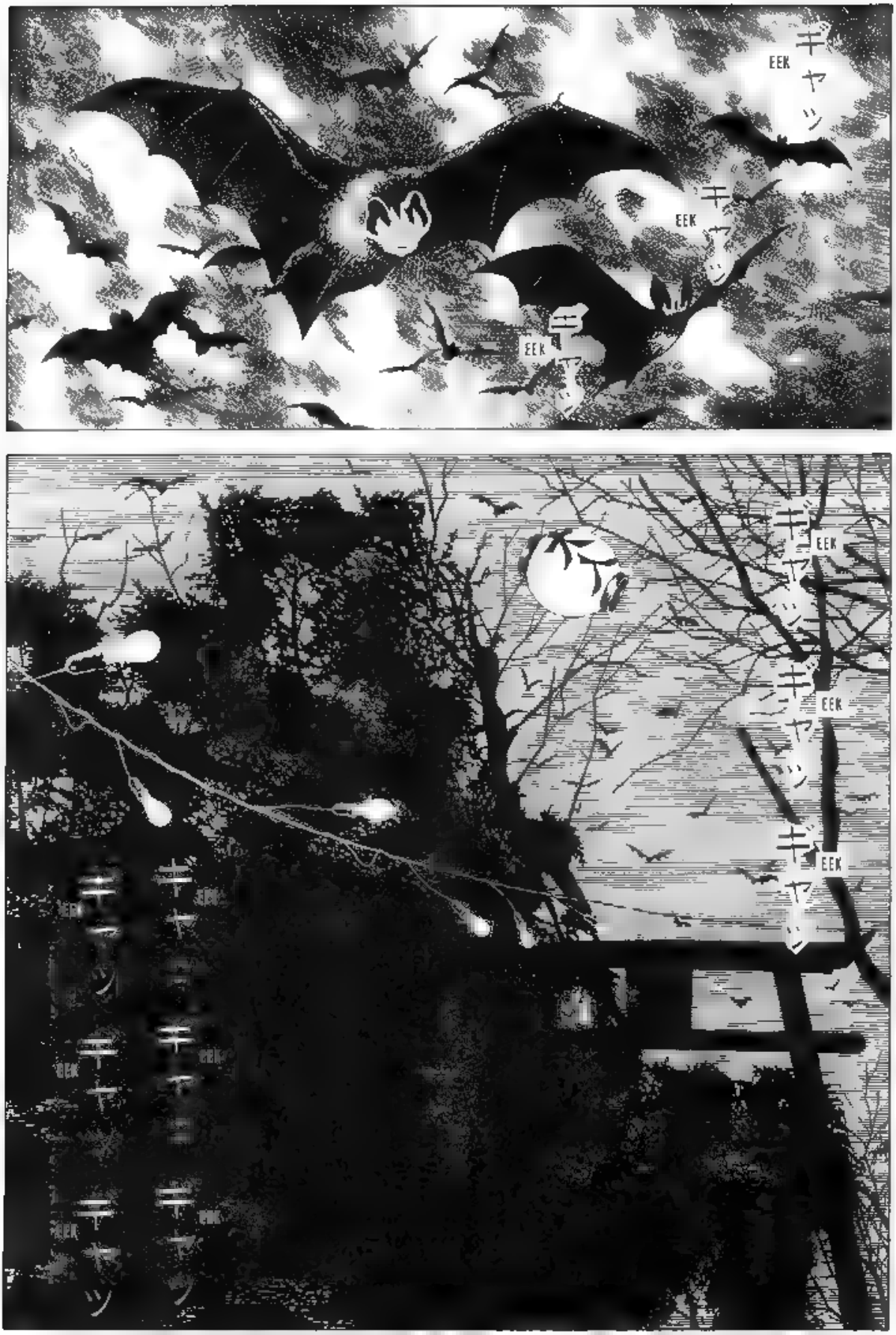
WE'D LIKE YOU TO STAR IN A MOVIE.

MAY I INTRODUCE MYSELF?

THE MOVIES!!
WOW! SHOCHIKU STUDIOS!

YOU MUST STAR IN OUR FILM
FROM NOW ON YOU'LL LIVE LIKE A PRINCESS INSTEAD OF BEING A CHILD SLAVE TO THESE FILTHY CARNIVAL FREAKS
AT LAST WE HAVE FOUND OUR NEW STAR!
WE'VE SEEN YOUR STAGE PERFORMANCE AND YOU'RE JUST THE GIRL WE NEED
WE'RE LOOKING FOR A GIRL TO PLAY THE LEAD IN OUR NEW FEATURE FILM, WISHING ON A STAR.
HUMPH MIDORI GOT THE LEAD ROLE
YOU'LL BE AN OVERNIGHT SENSATION
YOU'LL BE SERVED THE FINEST DELICACIES AND TREATED LIKE ROYALTY
FROM HERE ON IN YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE IN A PALACE

UH!
WHAT ON EARTH POSSESSED YOU TO DO THAT? ARE YOU MAD?
UHHH!
WHAT? ARE YOU SAYING WE'RE CON MEN? WHY, WE'RE
PERHAPS WE ARE DEALING WITH SOME CON MEN HERE.
I AM MIDORI'S GUARDIAN I WILL DECIDE WHAT SHE WILL DO. GET OUT
LEAVE IT ALONE, MIDORI
GET THE HELL OUT!!


EEK
EEK
EEK

EEK
EEK
EEK
EEK
EEK
MY HEAD HURTS
MIDORI, DEAR, WE'RE ON NEXT
SOCIAL STUDIES
ARE YOU ILL?

CRRRACK

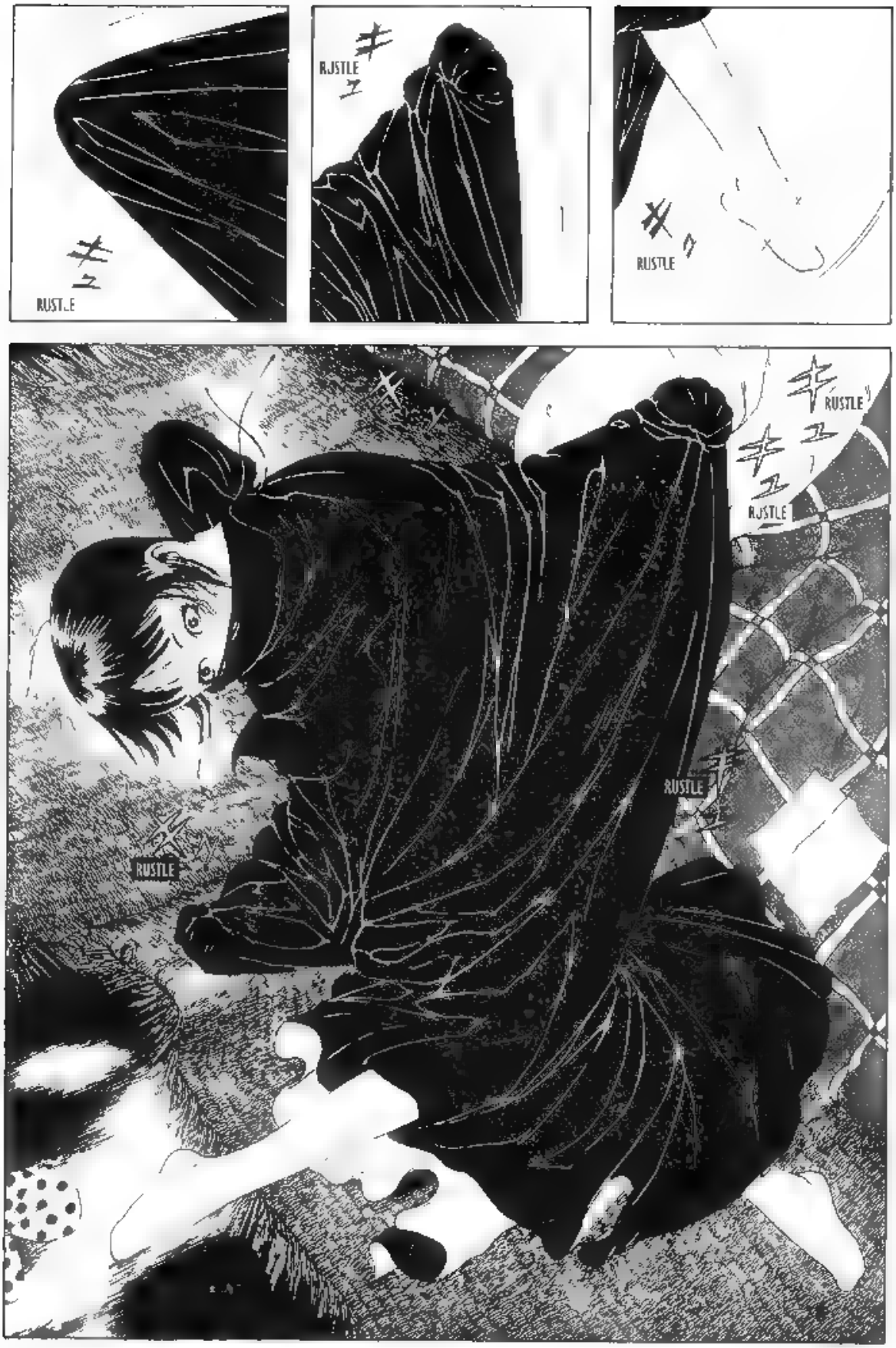
CHAPTER SIX

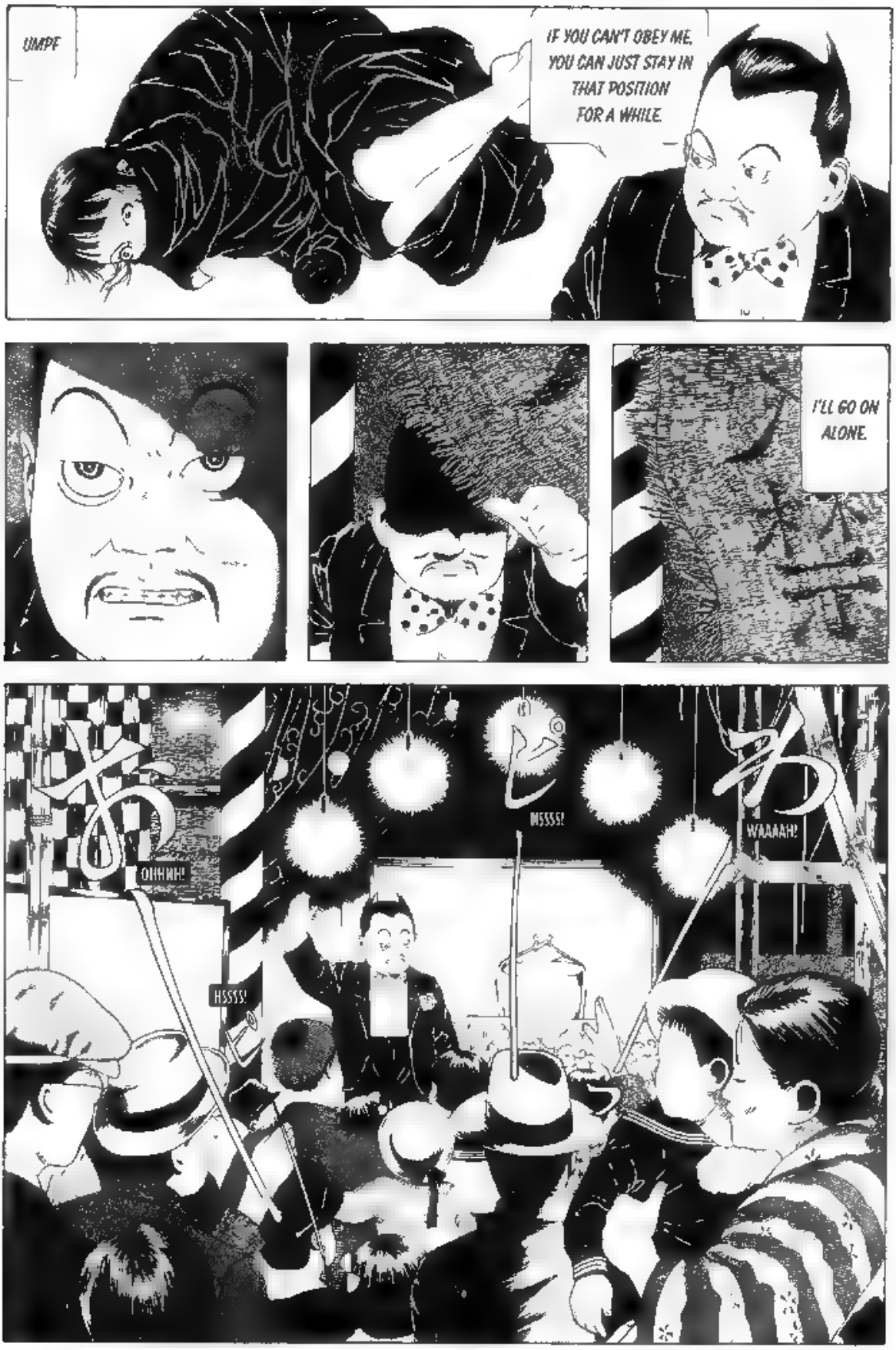
# THE RECKONING

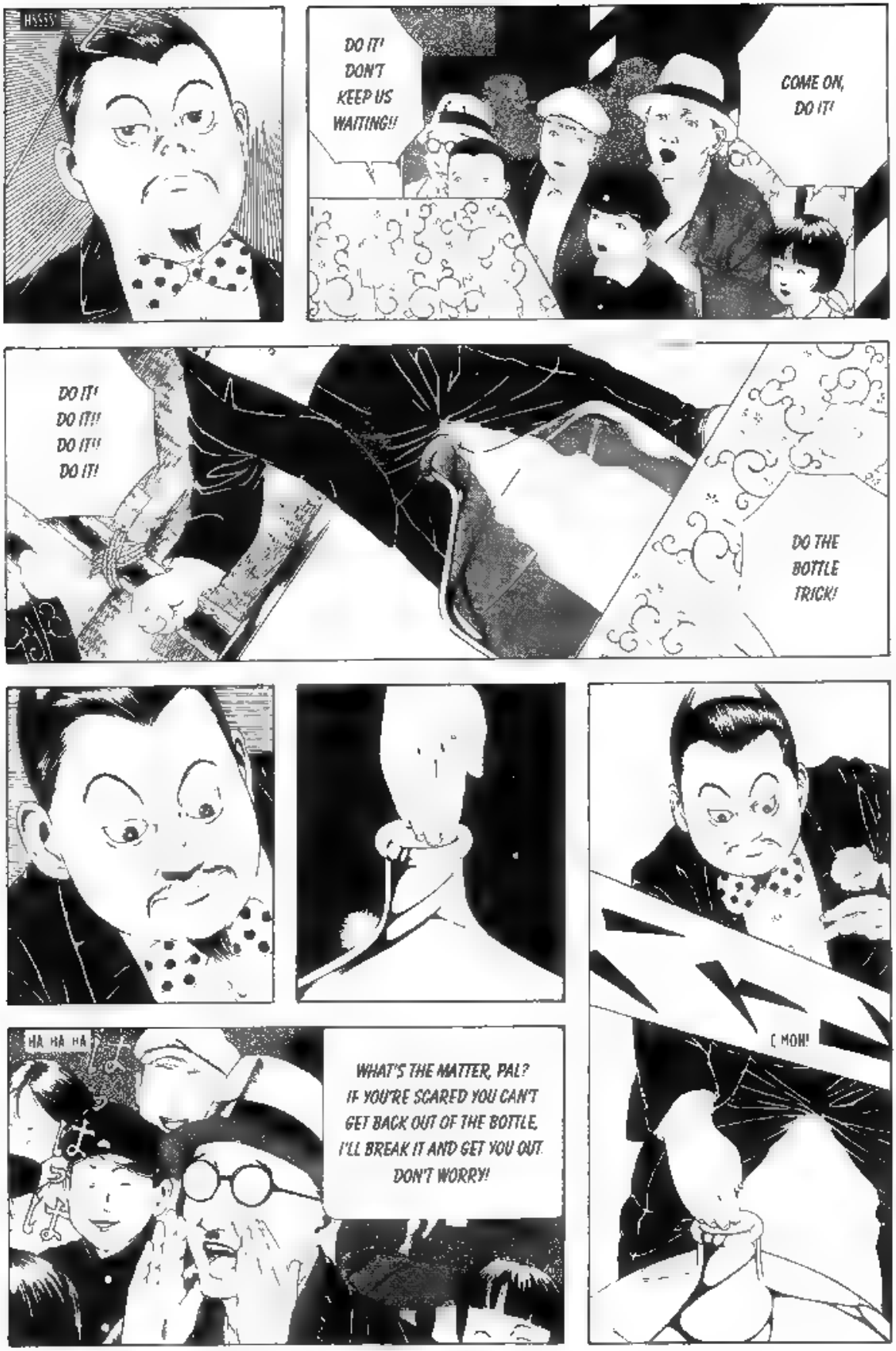
Mule-Faced Woman
Glomming Geek
Human Torch
Alligator Lady
Amazon Giantess
Sword Swallower
Human Pincushion
Big Bertha
Pin-Headed Boy
Confounding Contortionist
Fish-Faced Girl
Hermaphrodite
Pickled Punk
Mesmer the Mentalist
Double-Bodied Wonder
Iron-Tongued Marvel
Four-Legged Girl
Third-Sex Family

Frog Boy
Headless Girl
Tattooed Marvel
Fire Eater
Eighth Wonder of the World
Snake Charmer
Triple-Jointed Dwarf
Dog-Faced Woman
Mammoth Maniac
Windbag Man
Gargantua
Blockhead
Popeye
Pretzel Man
Pig-Faced Lady
Human Cannonball
Eighty-Year-Old Boy
Anatomical Wonder

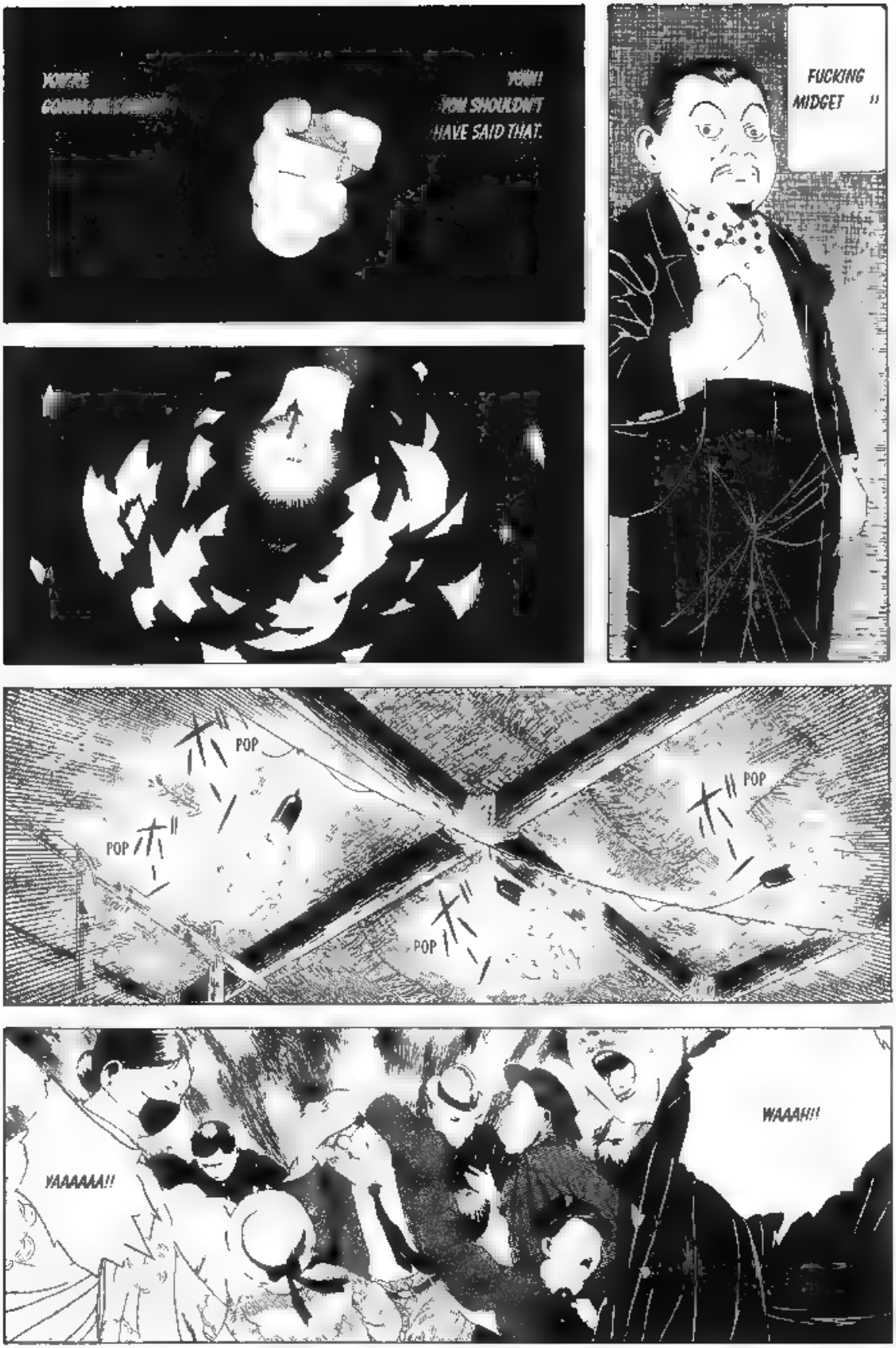
The Human Lightning Rod
Amazing Memory Man
Cloven-Hoofed Girl
Perplexing Prestidigitateur
Herculean Hulk
Incombustible Woman
Fire King
Stone Eater
The Human Aquarium
Le Pétomane
Man with X-Ray Eyes
Fire Walker
Mermaid Baby
Horned Woman
Armless Wonder
Iron-Neck Phenomenon
Two-Faced Man
The Human Knot


RUST..E
RJSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE


UMPF
IF YOU CAN'T OBEY ME, YOU CAN JUST STAY IN THAT POSITION FOR A WHILE.
I'LL GO ON ALONE.
OHHHH!
HSSSS!
HSSSS!
WAAAAH!

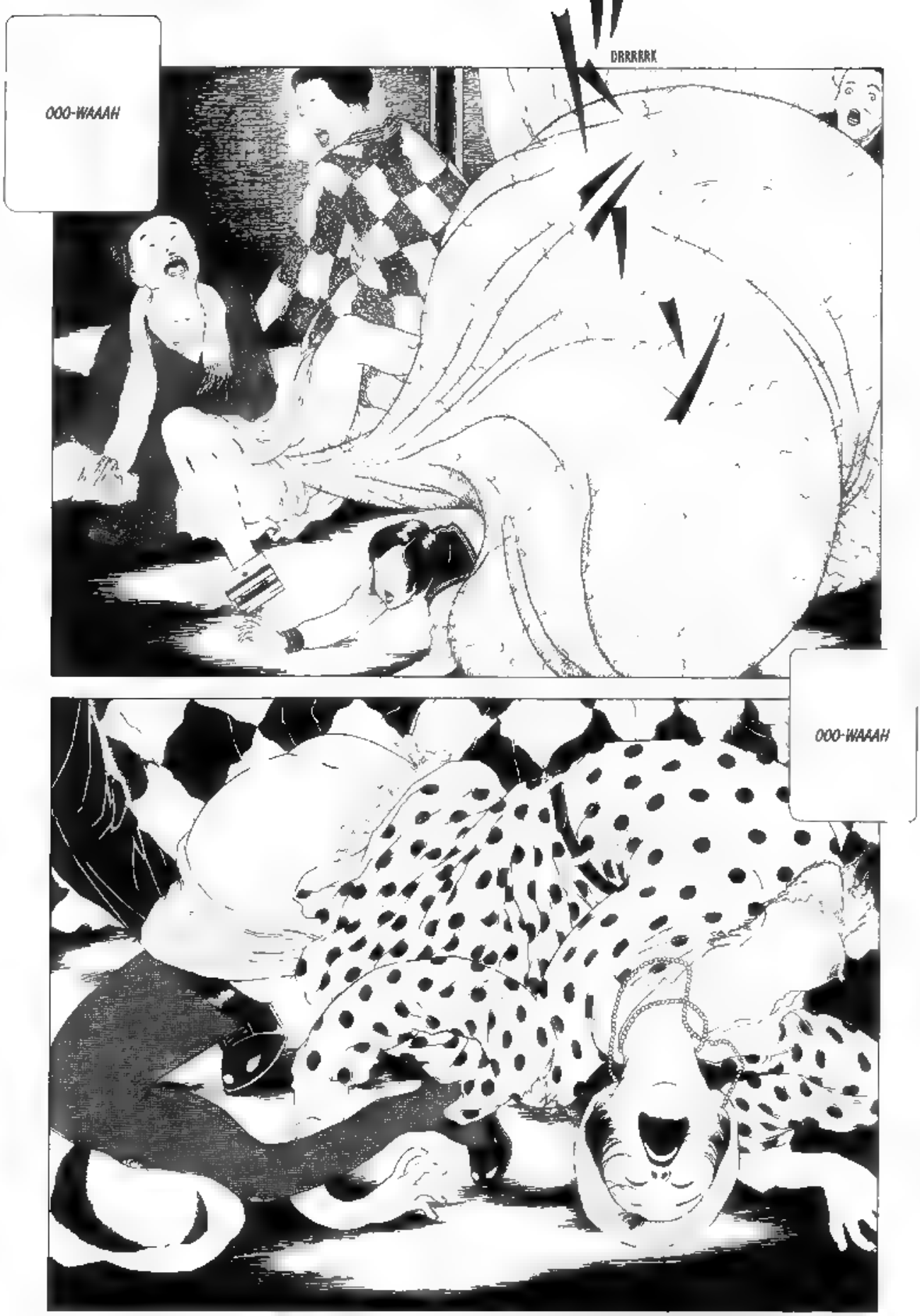

HSSSS
DO IT! DON'T KEEP US WAITING!!
COME ON, DO IT!
DO IT! DO IT!! DO IT!! DO IT!
DO THE BOTTLE TRICK!
C'MON!
HA HA HA
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PAL? IF YOU'RE SCARED YOU CAN'T GET BACK OUT OF THE BOTTLE, I'LL BREAK IT AND GET YOU OUT. DON'T WORRY!

I CAN'T CONCENTRATE!!
SHUT UP!! BE QUIET!!
MAN, WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
YOU'RE LAZY AND GREEDY SELF-PERSECUTED WRETCHES—
YOU'RE JUST CURIOSITY SEEKERS.
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF COWARDS!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!!
GET ON MY NERVES!!
ALL OF YOU
YOU CAN'T TALK TO YOUR AUDIENCE THAT WAY!!
MAYBE YOU'RE NORMAL, BUT YOU'RE ALL FOOLS.
YOU WALK AROUND LIKE YOU OWN THE WORLD.
FUCKING MIDGET!!
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK


YOU'RE
YOU!!
YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE SAID THAT.
FUCKING
MIDGET !!
POP
POP
POP
POP
YAAAAAA!!
WAAAH!!

ギギギ
GRRRR
KRRRRK
000
WAAAH

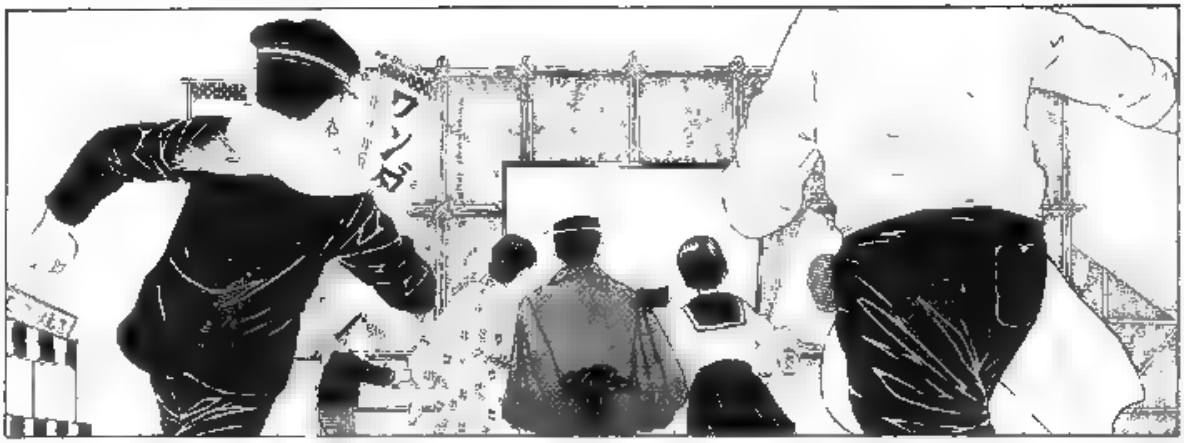
BRRRRRK
000
WAAAH
000
WAAAH

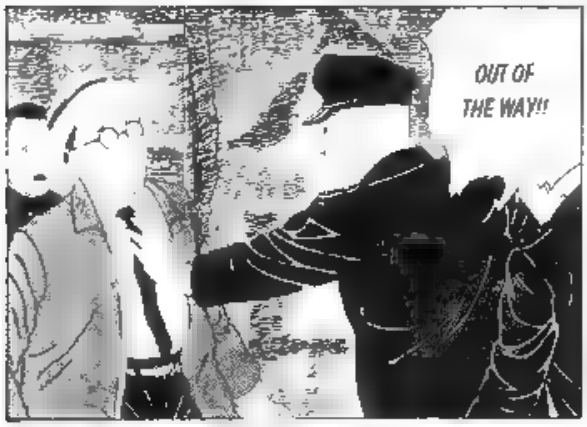

OOO-WAAAH
DRRRRRK
OOO-WAAAH

WHAT
THE HELL .
AHHH .
AHHH
ST
STOP IT!!
AWUHHH
STOP IT!!
PLEASE!
PLEASE!
STOP!!
STOP!!

000-WAAAH
000-WAAAH
000-WAAAH
000-WAAAH
000-WAAAH
000-WAAAH

CONVULSE!!
TWIST YOUR BONES!!
SWELL UP
TILL YOU BUST!!


ワンダ


OUT OF
THE WAY!!

STEP ASIDE,
STEP ASIDE!!

WHSSHT
HEY,
YOU
BASTARD!!

ALL RIGHT, JUST DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN.
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE, OFFICER.
HE REALLY WIPED HIMSELF OUT LOOK, HIS NOSE IS BLEEDING
OF COURSE IT WON'T I'M TERRIBLY SORRY
I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING SO EXCITING SINCE I DON'T KNOW WHEN.
IT WAS FUCKING GREAT JUST WATCHING IT WAS FUCKING GREAT
I WISH THEY'D HAVE ALL GOTTEN STUCK LIKE THAT.
YEAH! AFTER ALL, THEY WENT BACK TO NORMAL
HEY, RELAX, BOSS!!
THAT WAS DEPLORABLE!
MASAMITSU,
WE HAVE TO MOVE
WE'RE FINISHED IN THIS TOWN.
THEY MUST HAVE FELT LIKE THEY'D DIED AND GONE TO HELL.
BUT THEY DIDN'T GO BERSERK. THEY JUST QUIETLY WENT BACK HOME
IDIOTS!! WHAT IF THE CROWD HAD GONE BERSERK AFTER WHAT HE DID TO THEM, THEN WHAT!!

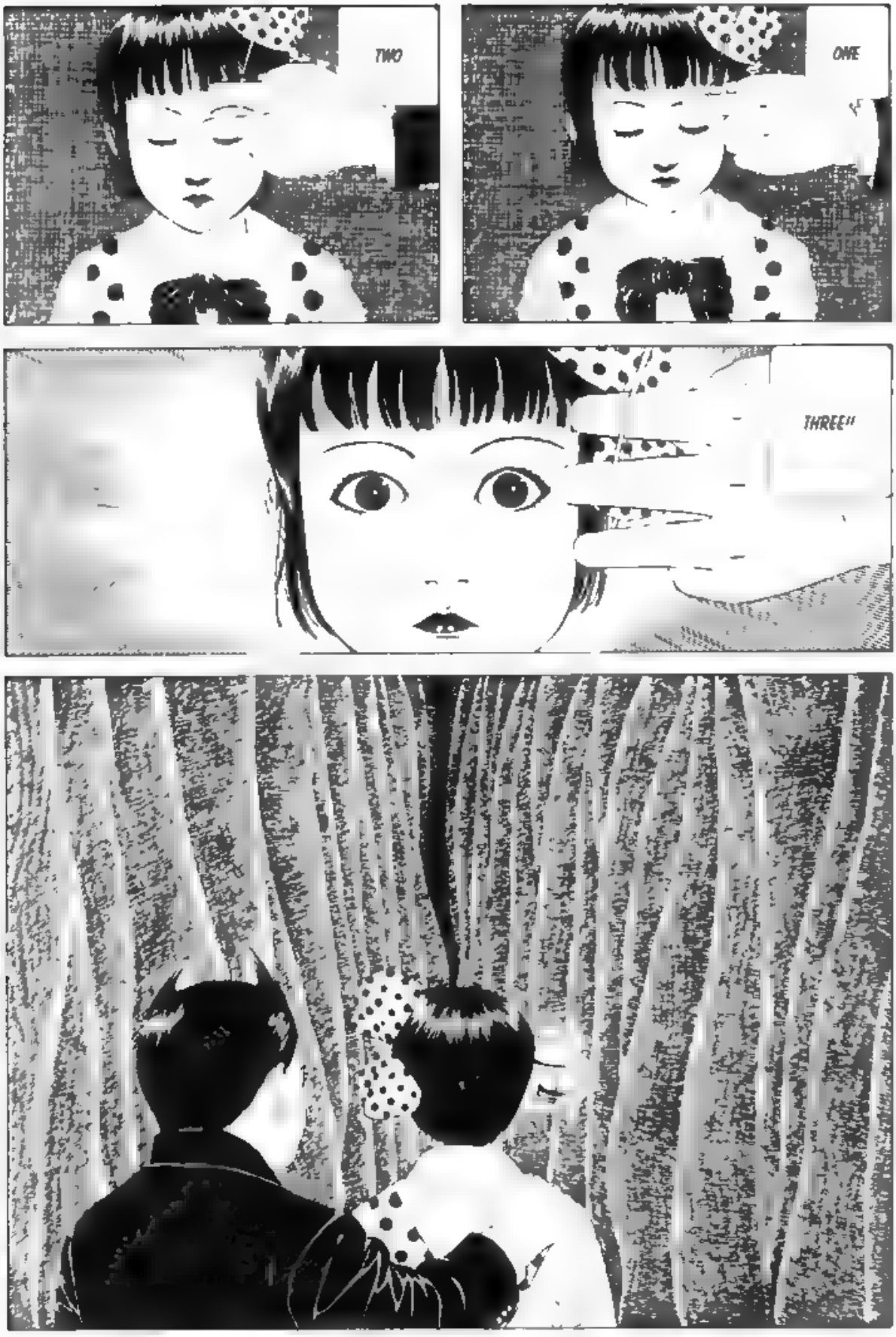
WHY?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!!
I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING IT ANYMORE.
I WON'T BE COMING WITH YOU
WHAT!?
I'M QUITTING.
WHAT WILL YOU DO, MASAMITSU?
MASAMITSU, IF IT'S SOMETHING I SAID
GEE, HE'S GONE NOW WHAT'LL WE DO?
SIR!!
SIR— IF YOU LEAVE US NOW, WE—

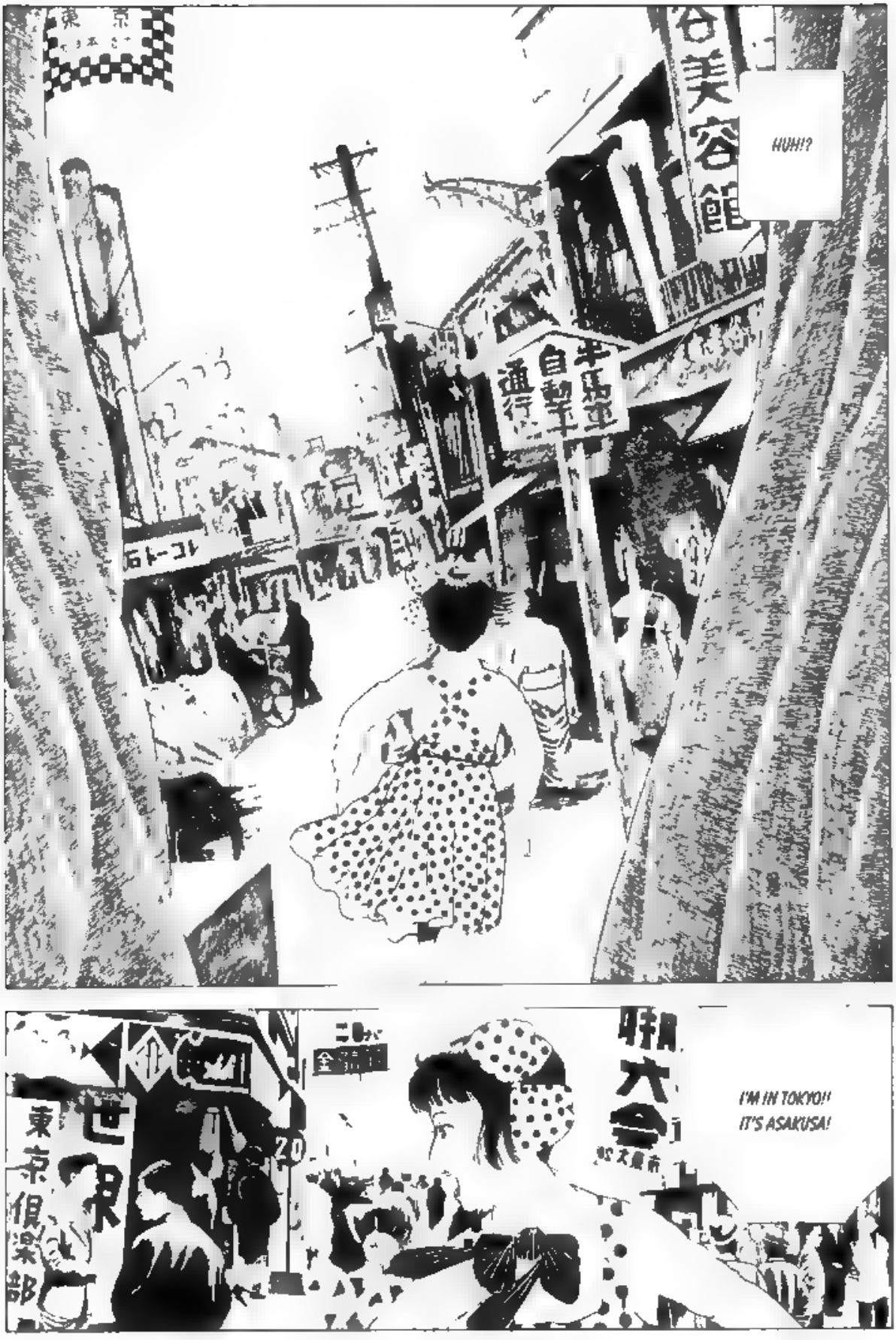
DEAR SWEET MIDORI, WHAT ARE YOU PRAYING FOR?

I'M SO SORRY

NO. I DON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE
COME WITH ME!!
I WON'T GIVE YOU UP FOR ANYTHING OR ANYBODY
I JUST WANNA GO HOME!!

CHAPTER
SEVEN
'TIL
DEATH
DO US
PART
ヤギシロン
ホリタミン


TWO
ONE
THREE!!


東京
美容館
HUH!?
自転車通行
トヨタ
I'M IN TOKYO!!
IT'S ASAKUSA!
東京倶楽部

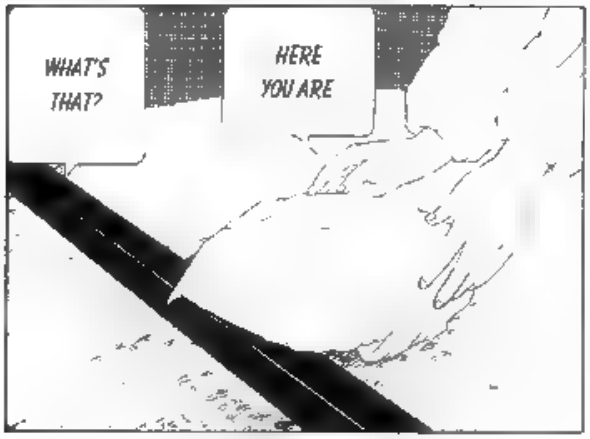
WOW!!

国民
健保
薬
局

WUFF
WUFF

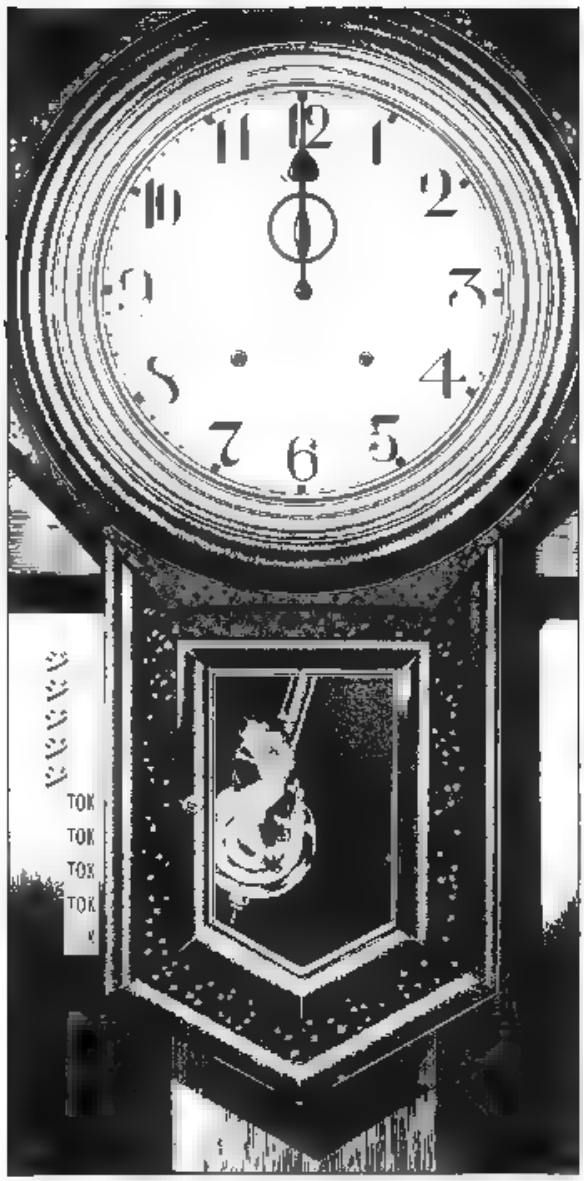
MIDORI, WHY ARE YOU SO LATE? YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT!

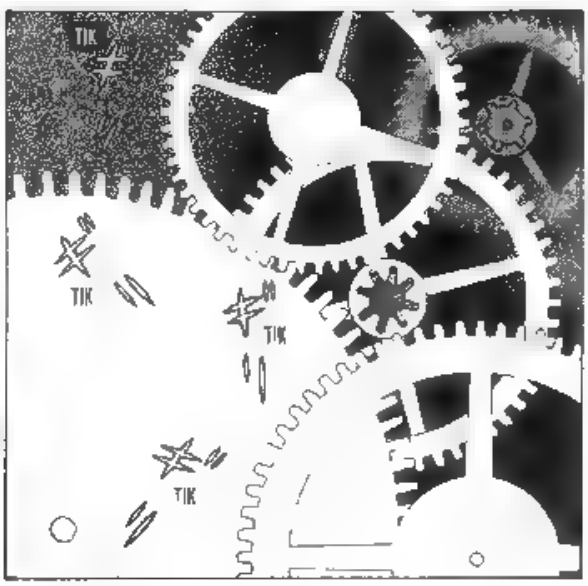
COME ON AND GET YOUR DINNER SO I CAN FINISH CLEANING UP THE TABLE.
MIDORI, WHAT'S THE MATTER?


WHAT'S THAT?
HERE YOU ARE

YEP.

THANK YOU, DADDY
YOUR DADDY BROUGHT IT HOME FOR YOU.
SOME SNACKS FOR THE FIELD TRIP WITH YOUR CLASS TOMORROW
YEP!!
I WANT YOU TO GET TO BED A LITTLE EARLY TONIGHT SO YOU WON'T OVERSLEEP IN THE MORNING.
TIK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

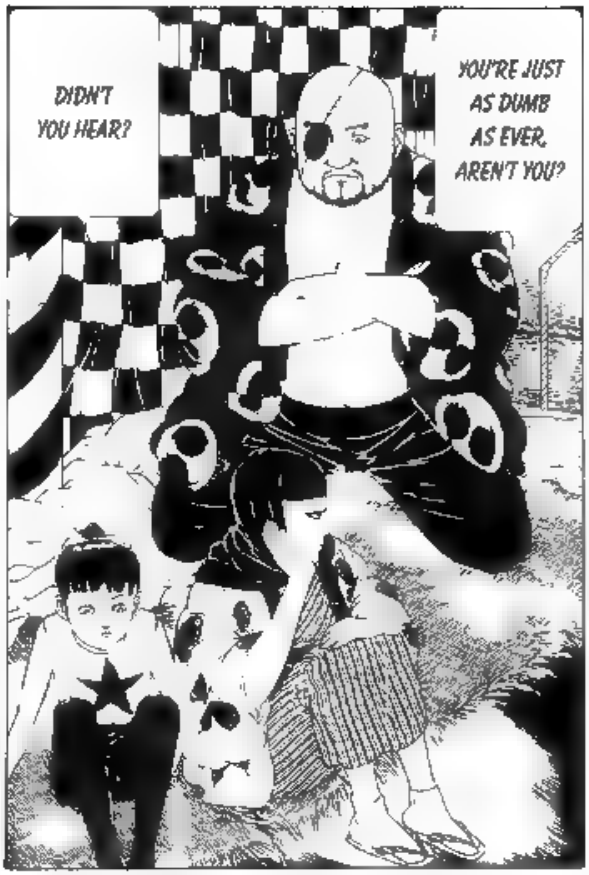

TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK


TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK

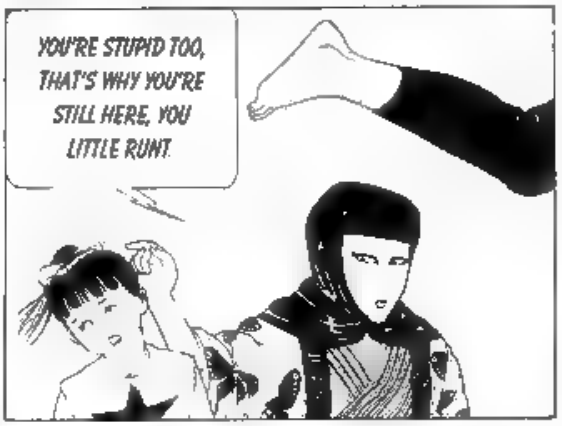
BONG
BONG
BONG
BONG
BONG
COME ON, IT'S ALMOST SHOW TIME.
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU LOOK ALL DEPRESSED.
DIE

ARASHI RAN OFF WITH ALL THE MONEY

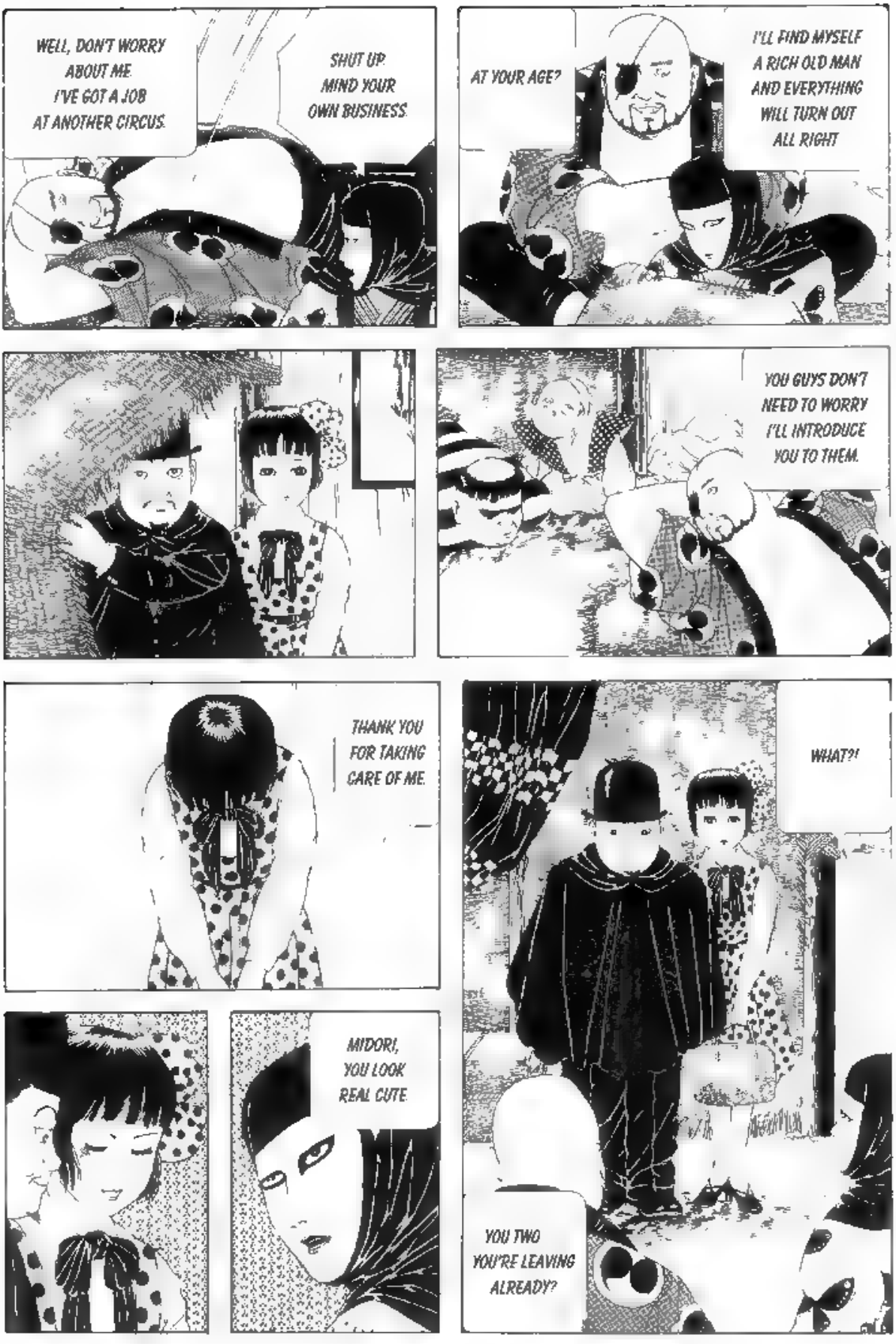
WHAT?

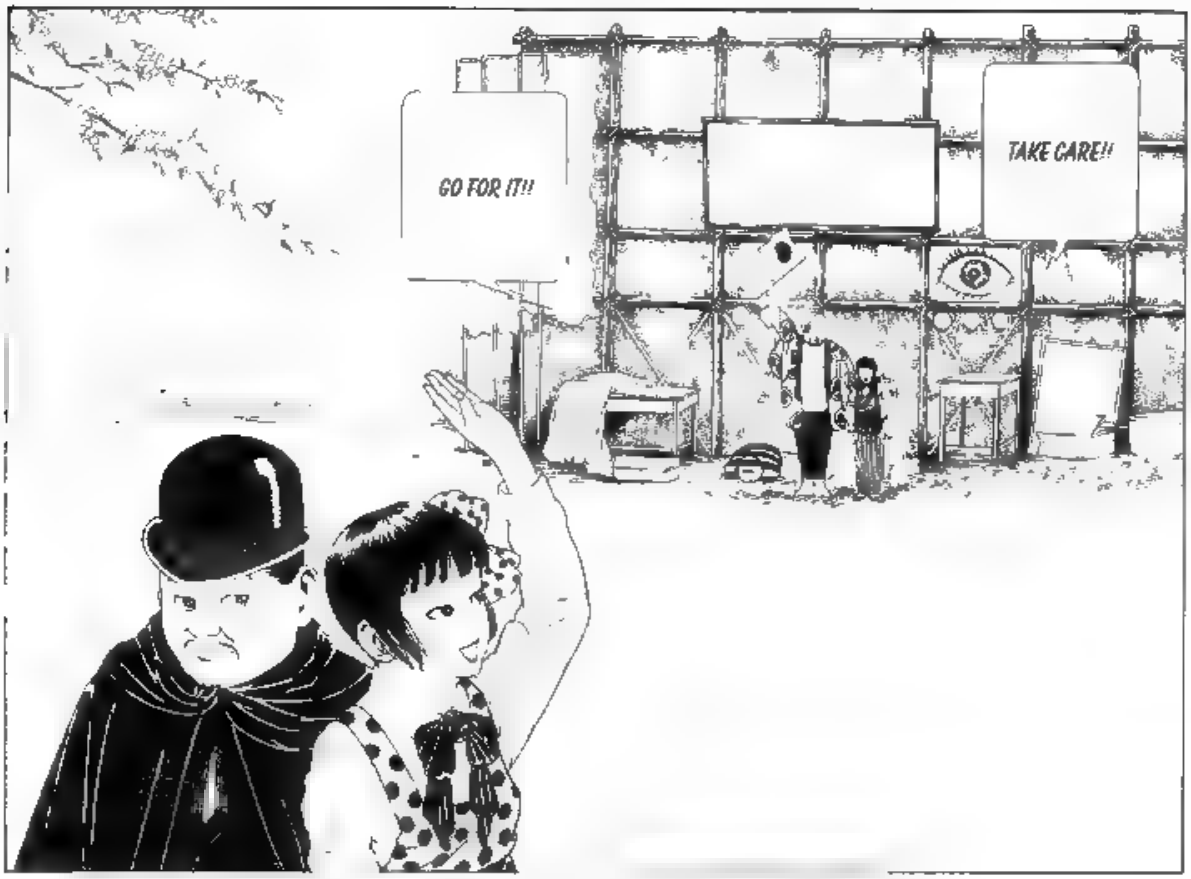

DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
YOU'RE JUST AS DUMB AS EVER, AREN'T YOU?

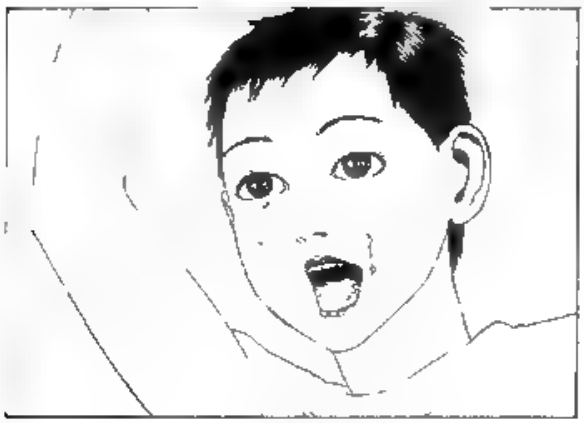
SO GO AHEAD AND KILL ME!!

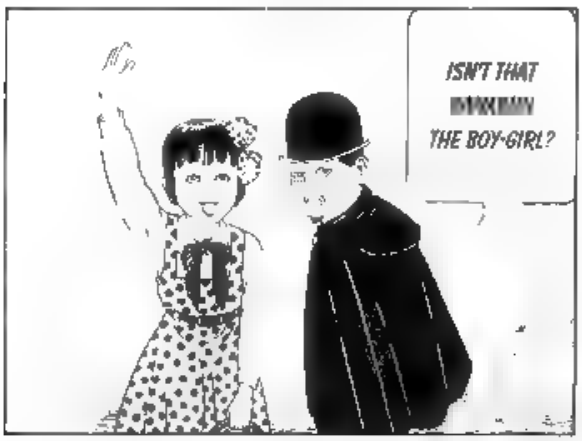

YOU'RE STUPID TOO, THAT'S WHY YOU'RE STILL HERE, YOU LITTLE RUNT.

MIDORI, DEAR, YOU'LL COME WITH ME, WON'T YOU?
YES.
I DON'T KNOW. STAYING HERE IS POINTLESS, ISN'T IT?
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO NOW?


WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. I'VE GOT A JOB AT ANOTHER CIRCUS.
SHUT UP. MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.
AT YOUR AGE?
I'LL FIND MYSELF A RICH OLD MAN AND EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT ALL RIGHT
YOU GUYS DON'T NEED TO WORRY I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THEM.
THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF ME.
WHAT?!
MIDORI, YOU LOOK REAL CUTE.
YOU TWO YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?


GO FOR IT!!
TAKE CARE!!




ISN'T THAT
THE BOY-GIRL?

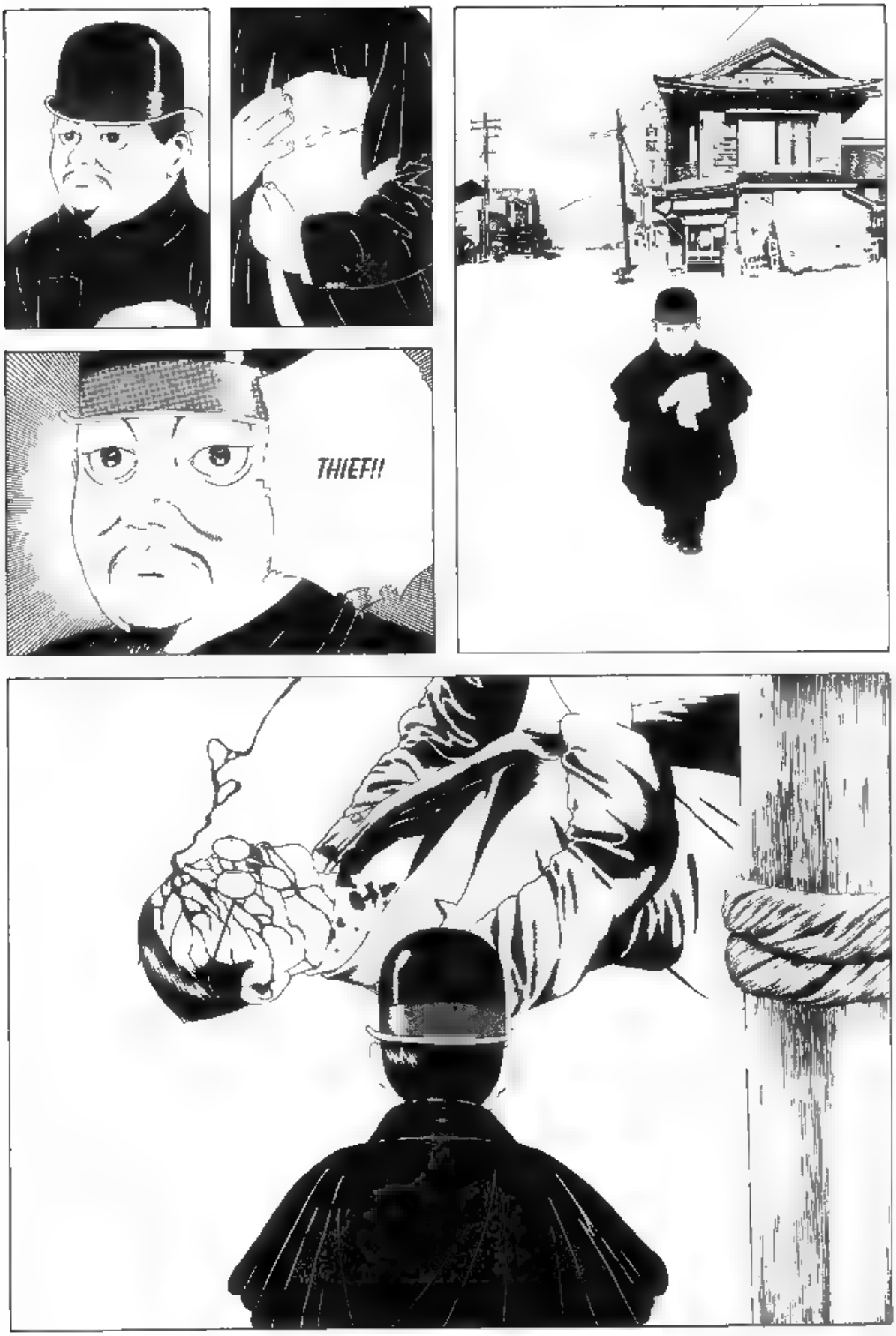
HEY, MIDORI!!
BYE, MIDORI!!

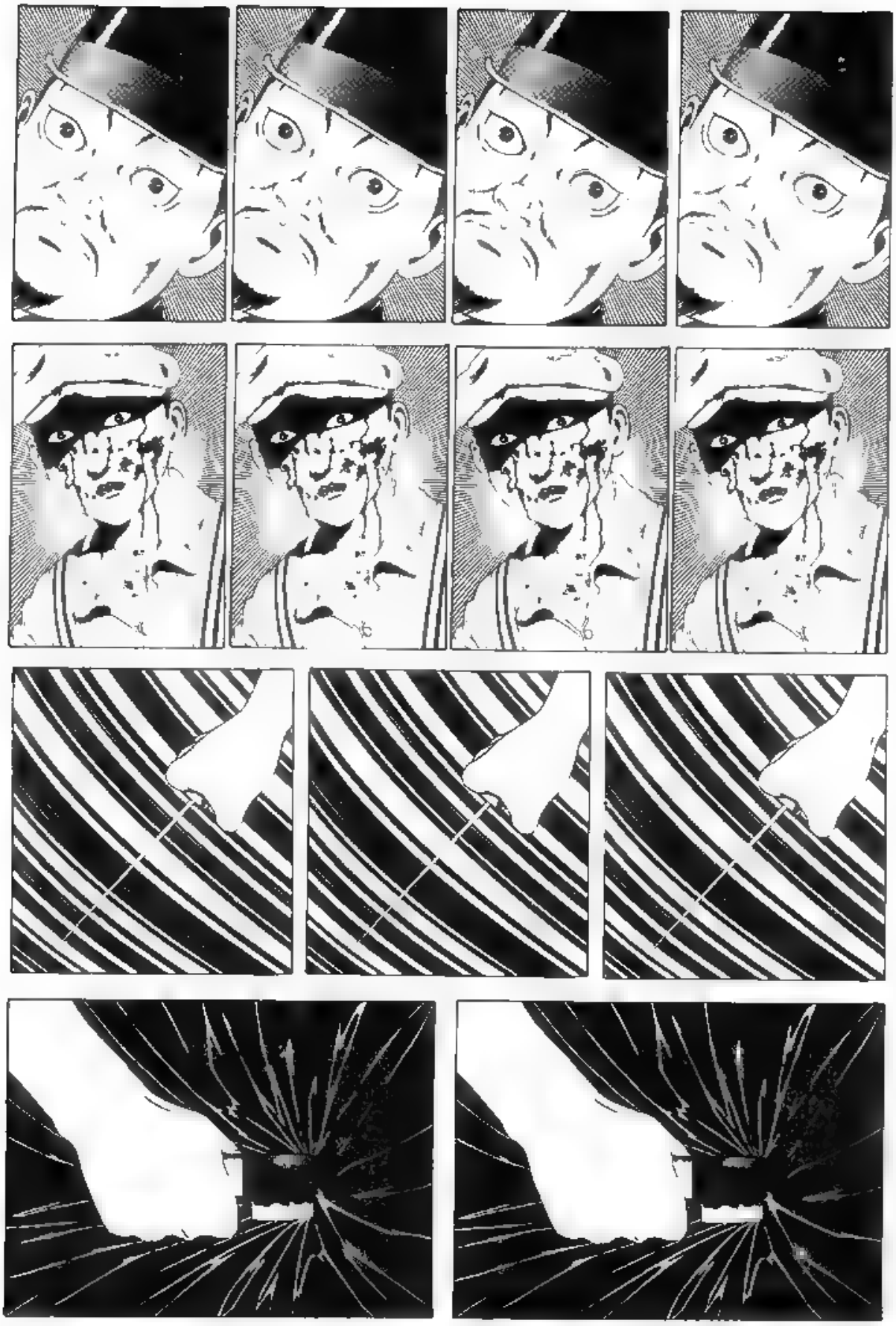
I HOPE I WILL SEE THEM AGAIN SOMEDAY
I HOPE SO TOO

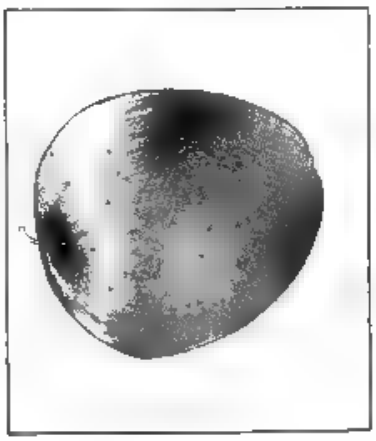
白山
BUS STOP

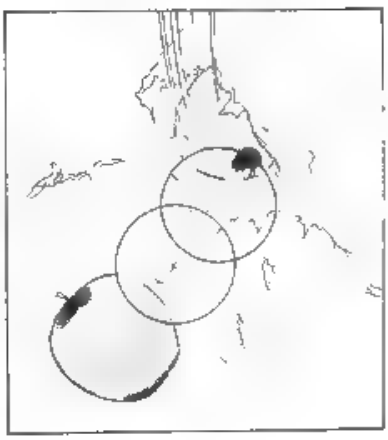
YEP!
YOU WAIT HERE FOR ME, MIDORI.
WE HAVE A LITTLE TIME. I'LL GO GET US SOME LUNCH.
IT ISN'T A DREAM
WOW— IT ISN'T A DREAM.

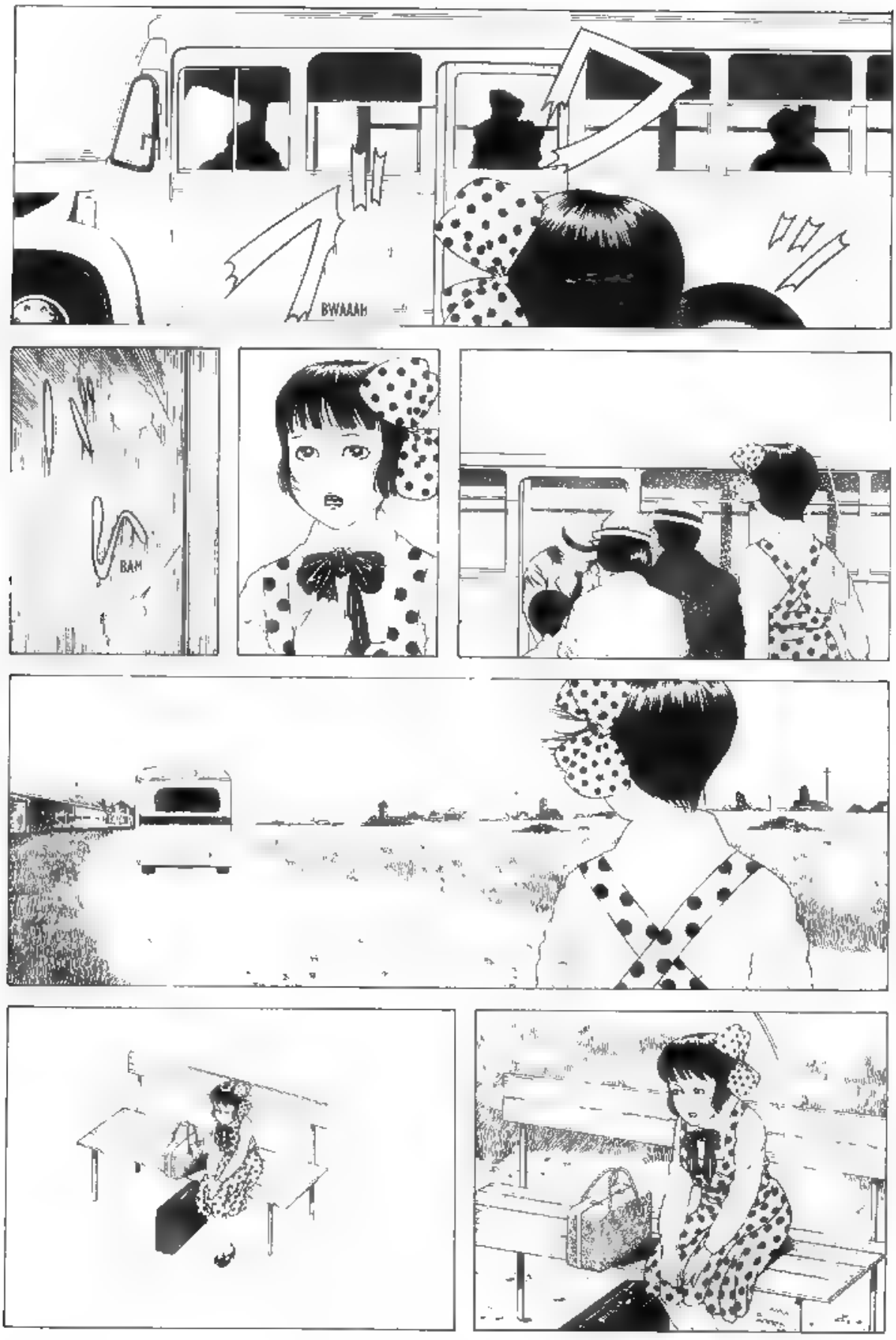
# FAREWELL, SWEET CHERRY BLOSSOMS

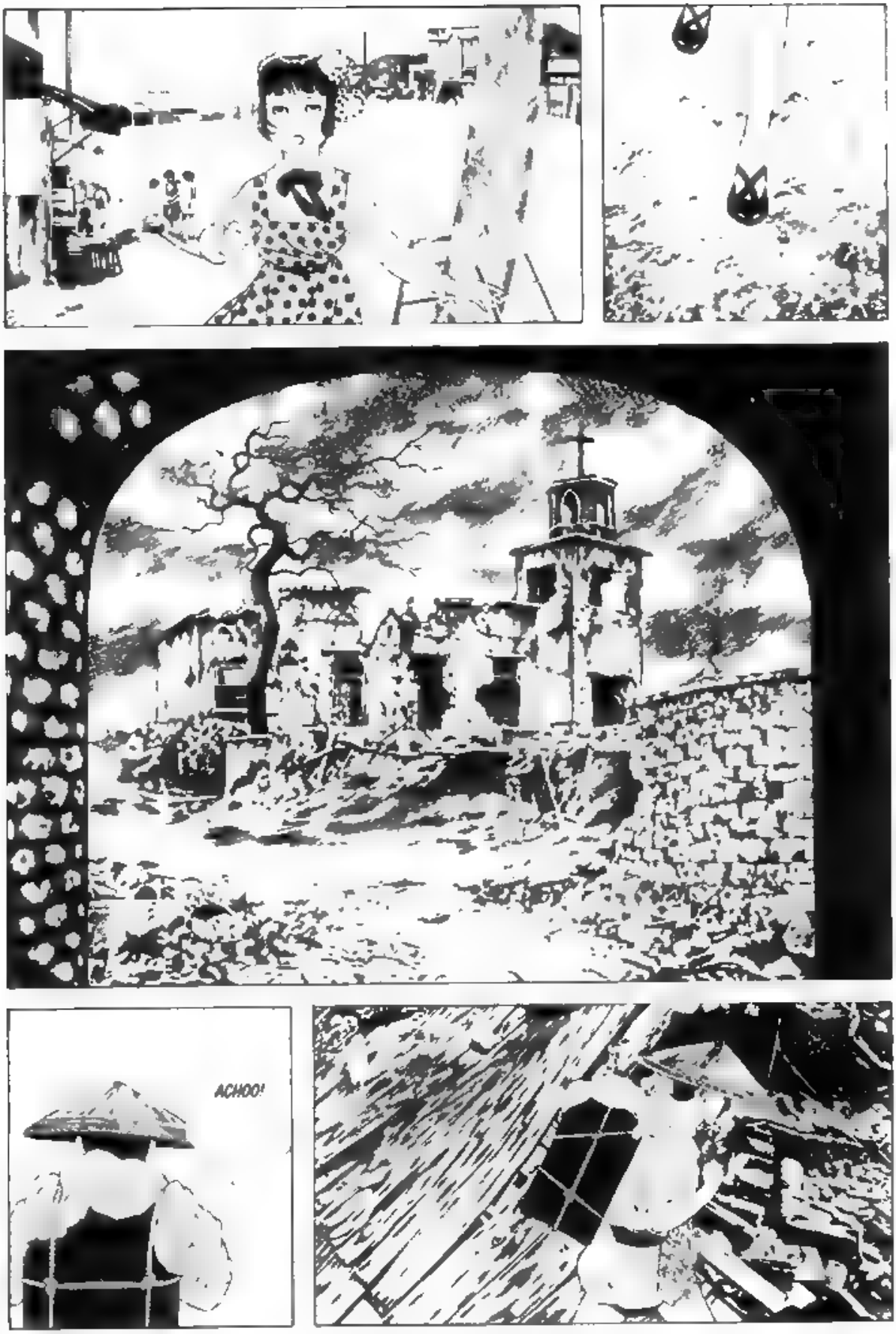

THIEF!!

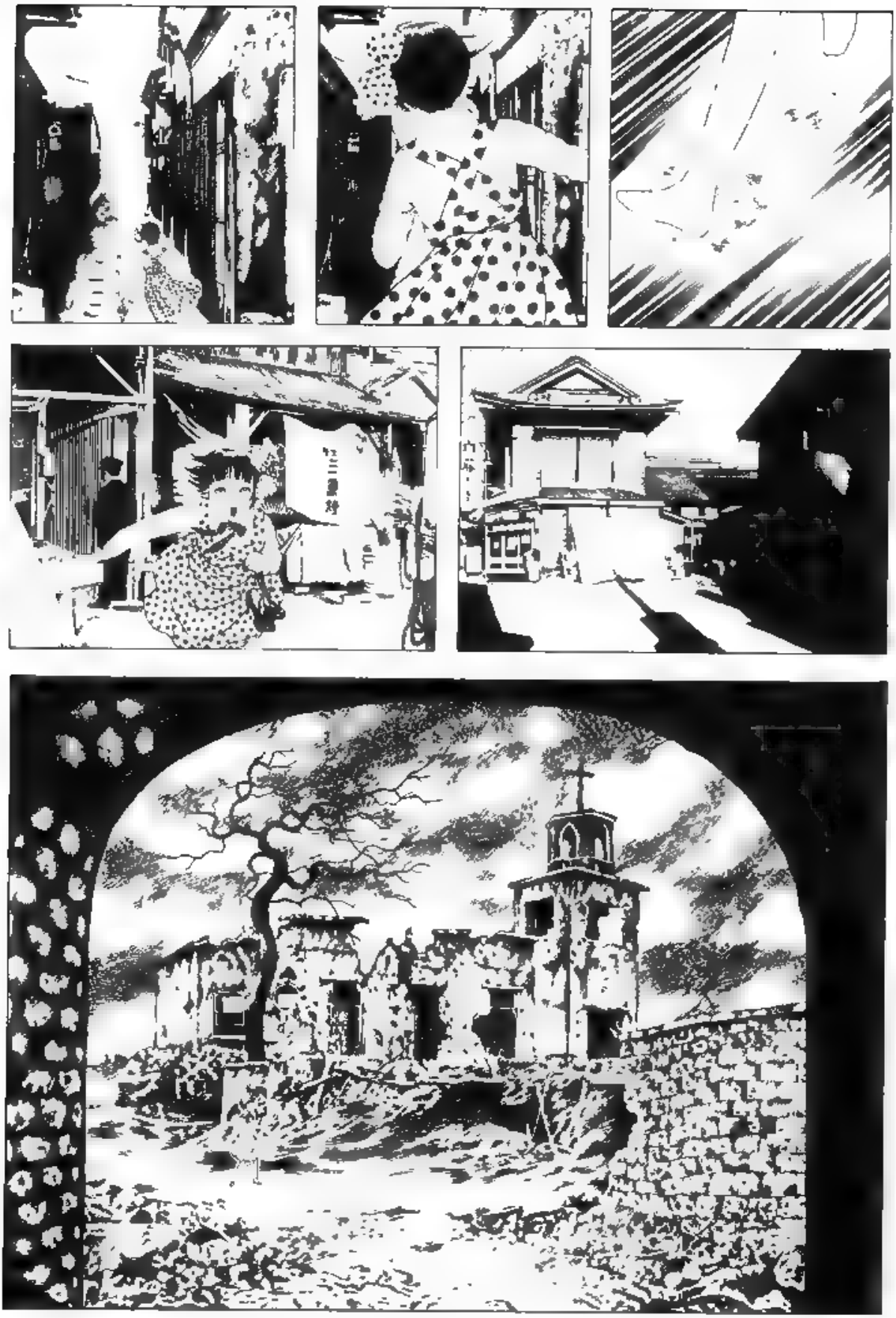


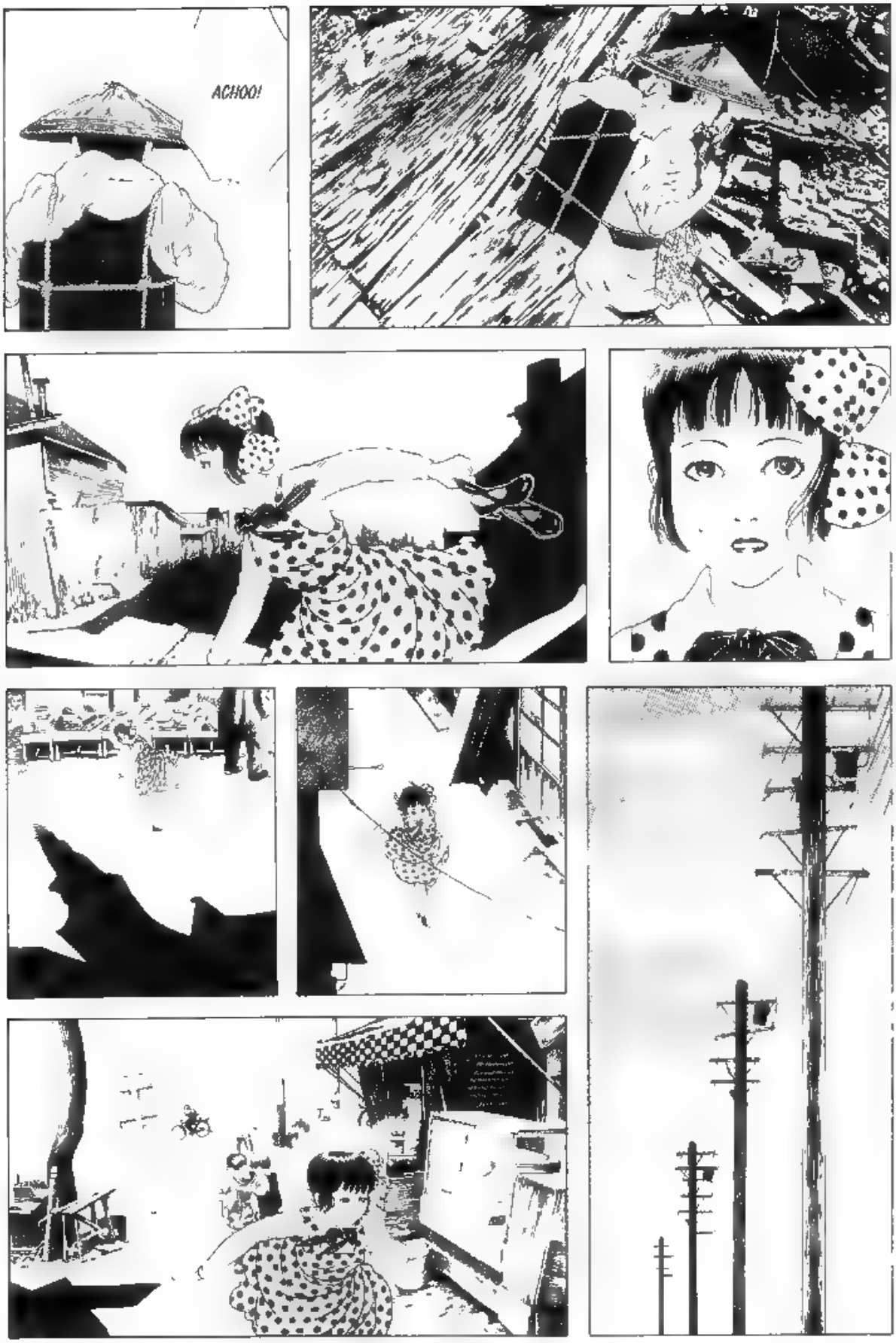


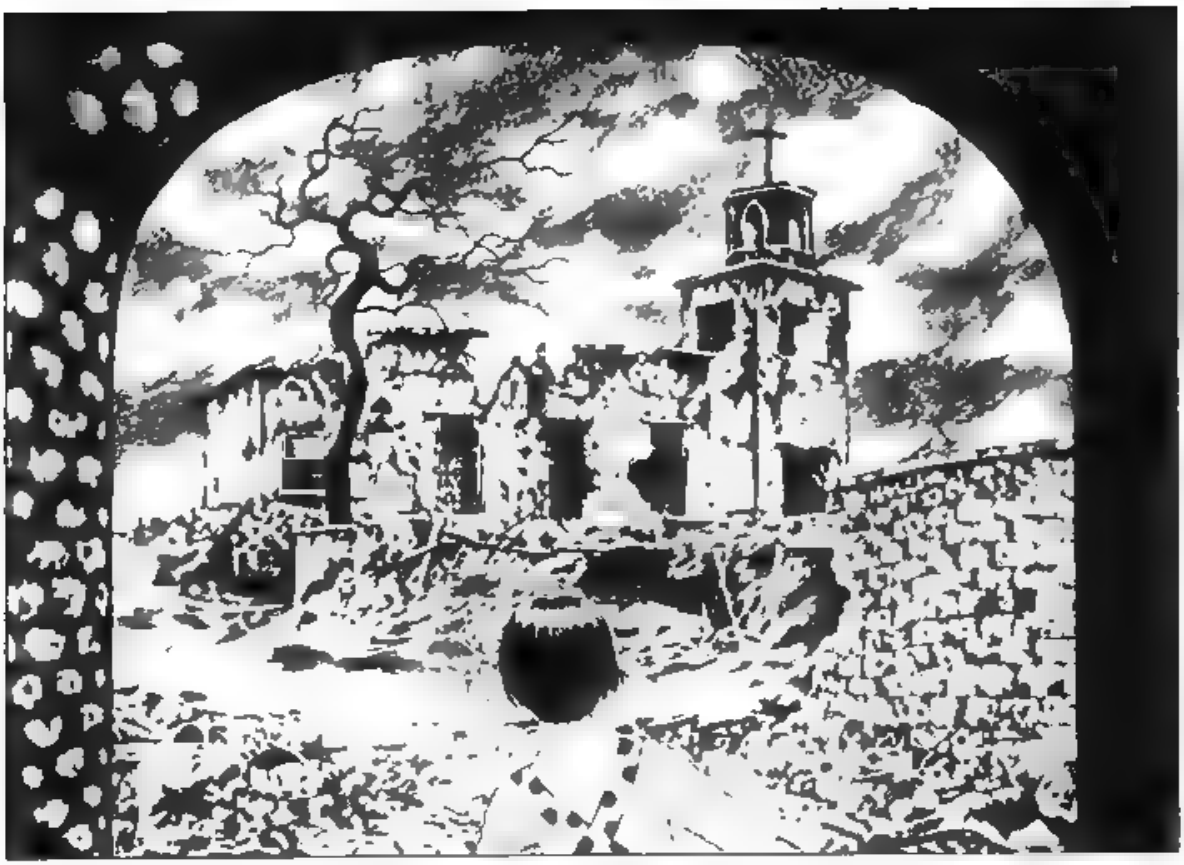



BWAAAH
BAM

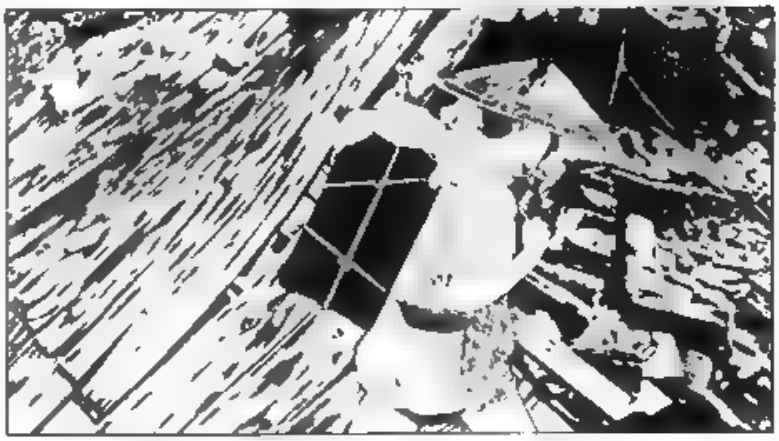

ACHOO!




ACHOO!

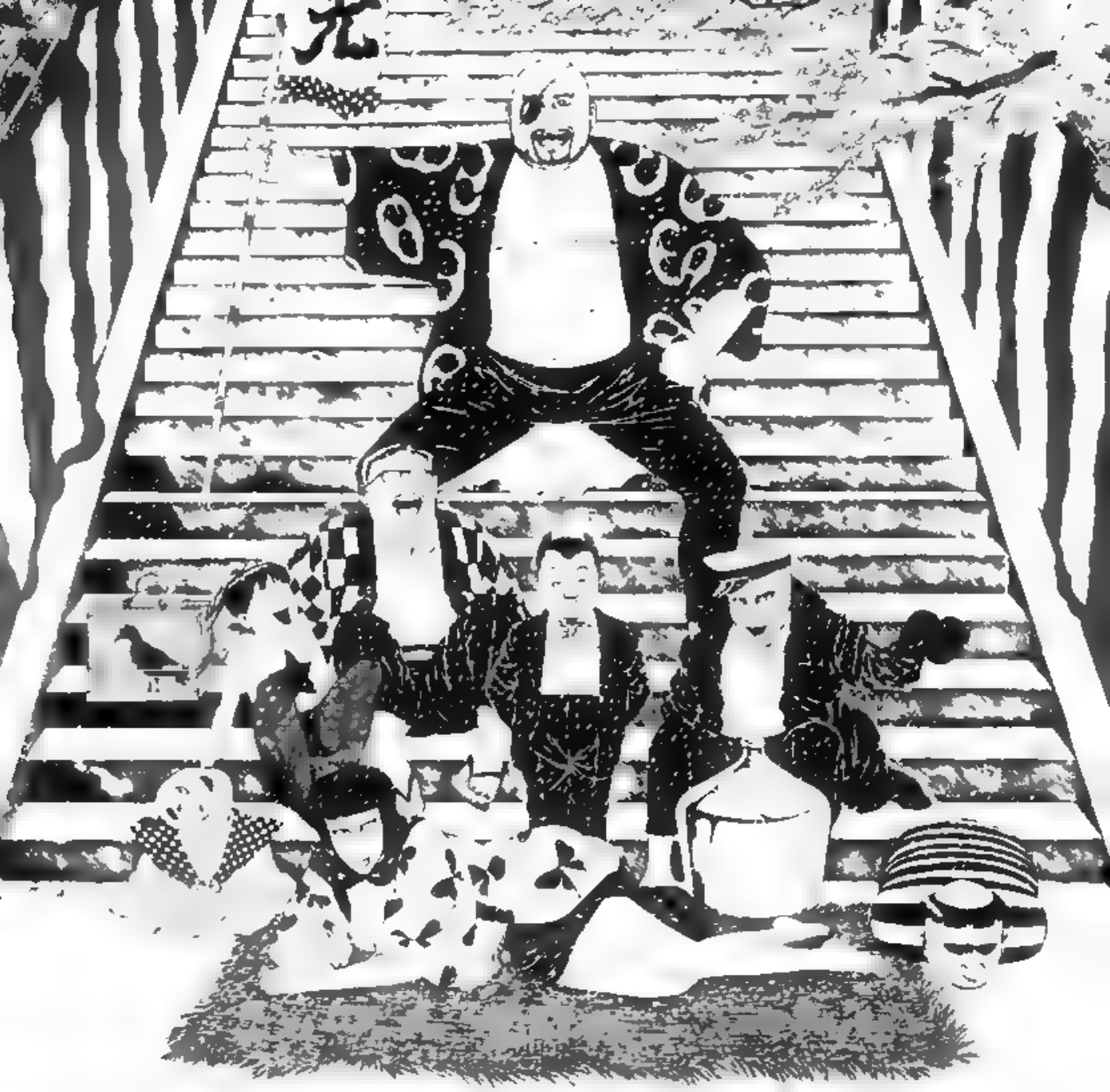


ACHOO!



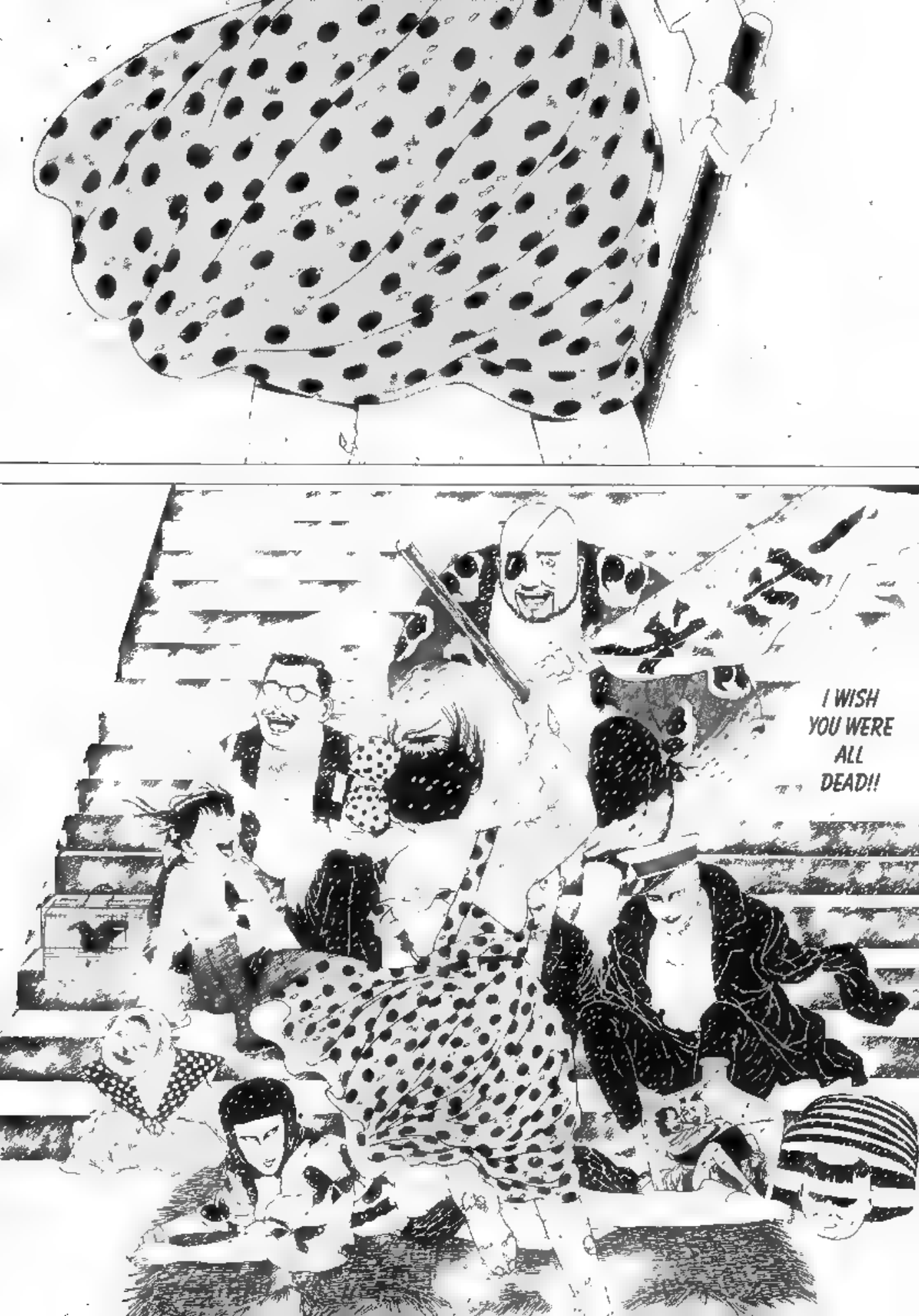
WHERE ARE YOU?

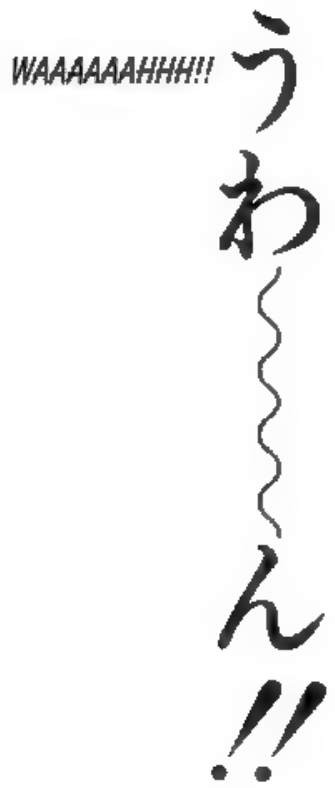
HA HA HA
GA HA HA
WA HA
KYA HA HA
HA HA
HEE HEE
HEH HEH HEH
HO HO



KYA
HA
KYA
HA
KYA
HA
HA
HA
HEH
HEH
HA
HA

NOOOO!!
HEH
HEH
HA
HA


I WISH YOU WERE ALL DEAD!!


WAAAAAAHHH!!
うわ〜〜ん!!

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# NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

Japanese is read from right to left—the opposite direction of English—so you'll find the beginning of this book at the back, where English-language books end.